PENGUINS MARCH INTO EAST FINAL, PG 13

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Celebrity pg 41

New addiction for rapper Eminem

'Hangar-on' ordered to leave airport

STOPOVER She wasn't enduring the flight delay from hell and had no intentions of leaving on a jet plane, so police said she had to leave.

An unidentified woman believed to be in her 40s was given bus fare and asked to vacate Toronto's Pearson International Airport yesterday after staff told police she had been sleeping there for about a month.

The woman, who was lugging around a suitcase, didn't appear to have any mental issues and left the airport without incident.

Because the airport never closes, it's not unusual for people to be seen walking around — or catching a quick nap — overnight.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Local pg 5

Study finds skin colour is a barrier

Sunny Side

Follow Metro's SunnySide initiative as we help you find the good news around Toronto and Canada. This is also a Call to Action for you to send us your suggestions at torontoletters@metronews.ca, metronews.ca or on Twitter @metrotoronto.

- On metronews.ca
- **Share your SunnySide thoughts on Twitter using #sunnyside**
- **See what other Metro readers are doing and saying about SunnySide**
- **Enter for a chance to win a Sony Blu-ray player**
- Today
- **Comment – Steve Collins on relationships, page 10**
- **Food – David Rocco's "sweet life," page 33**

DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A Tamil protester delivers her message at Queen's Park yesterday as thousands of Tamil-Canadians gathered to demonstrate against the civil war in Sri Lanka. The protest was the latest in an ongoing campaign by Tamil-Canadians. More coverage, page 8.

Tamer tone for Tamil protest

No repeat of Sunday's storming of Gardiner Expressway

Thousands of Tamil-Canadians took part in a boisterous protest yesterday at Queen's Park under the watchful eye of hundreds of police officers after another peaceful demonstration over the weekend turned into an impromptu storming of the Gardiner Expressway.

A constant rotation of protesters took turns at various megaphones chanting "Tamil Tigers, freedom fighters" and "no more genocide" for hours until their voices turned hoarse.

"MPs are talking, the media is talking, people on the streets are talking. That's what we wanted."
Protester Sahab Jesuthasan

Hundreds of police officers, most of them in riot gear, kept watch by forming a perimeter around the peaceful demonstration.

The protesters left the legislature last night and marched through several downtown streets as police closed the roads ahead of the banner-waving marchers.

The protesters returned to the legislature lawn following the march and were again ringed by hundreds of police.

Leading up to yesterday's protest, police had issued warnings that the city could see disruptions again, though protest organizers had not threatened similar road closures.

Protester Sahab Jesuthasan said he understands people are frustrated by the demonstrations but adds it's necessary to raise awareness.

"I think patience is wearing a little thin ... (but) people are finally asking why," he said.

"MPs are talking, the media is talking, people on the streets are talking. That's what we wanted."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

McGuinty hints at cash for Copps

One week after rejecting the idea of using taxpayers' money to help bring an NHL franchise to Hamilton, Premier Dalton McGuinty left the door open to using public funds to help fix up Copps Coliseum in hopes of attracting the Phoenix Coyotes.

RIM co-CEO Jim Balsillie is looking for up to $120 million in federal and provincial funds to renovate the Hamilton arena if he is successful in his bid to move the bankrupt Coyotes to southern Ontario from Arizona.

McGuinty at first declined comment, saying his office had not been approached by Balsillie for money, but then refused to dismiss the idea of using taxpayers' cash to upgrade Copps Coliseum.

"We'll just have to wait and see if we get a sensible proposal," McGuinty said yesterday.

The premier left the door open when asked directly if he was again ruling out public funds to attract an NHL franchise.

Deputy premier George Smitherman agreed the province is willing to consider using tax dollars to help Hamilton fix up Copps Coliseum, but only if Balsillie can convince an Arizona court to let him move the Coyotes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

First pick

- In a statement directed at Hamilton city council, Jim Balsillie, above, said the city is his first choice for locating a potential seventh NHL team in Canada, and added he's not considering "any other site locations at this time."

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Police sting nets 57 johns
Toronto Police officers posing as prostitutes caught 57 men in a weekend-long prostitution sting. During operation D.O.J.O (Diversion of John Offenders), officers roamed Danforth Avenue between Main St. and Victoria Park Avenue from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., until Sunday. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

Fruit wine sales bill leads to hot heads

Tempers are flaring in the legislature over a Progressive Conservative proposal to allow Ontario fruit wines to be sold at farmers' markets. Tory leadership candidate Randy Hillier, left, says a prominent Liberal promised swift passage of the private member's bill, while another is insisting it won't allow the wine sales. Hillier accused the Liberals of lying and was kicked out of the chamber yesterday. Agriculture Minister Leona Dombrowsky says she's willing to try the wine sales as a pilot project. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Tomorrow's Metro

Soundcheck
Alan Cross reveals his top five places to find cool music.

metronews.ca

WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Afghan soldiers trade in their flimsy pickup trucks for new Humvees, with training from Canadians at **metronews.ca/canada**

Video Thousands of Tamils continue their protest outside the Ontario legislature at **metronews.ca/canada**

Lotteries

Lotto 6/49: 6, 10, 24, 28, 31 & 46 Bonus 25
Ontario 49: 8, 14, 21, 25, 26 & 44 Bonus 22
Ontario Pick 3: 0 1 4; **Ontario Pick 4** : 3 1 6 3
Encore: 9479455
Daily Keno: 2, 4, 5, 7, 16, 19, 20, 24, 32, 39 41, 49, 51, 52, 53, 57, 62, 64, 66, 70
These results are not official.

Please recycle

Wanted: Chopper for baby Kaylee

The saga of an infant girl no one expected to live is turning a new page as her parents prepare to take her home from hospital, but not without some fresh drama.

A family representative has appealed to media to shuttle the girl home by helicopter.

Three-month-old Kaylee Vitelli defied doctors' fatal prognosis last month and her heart — which her parents publicly hoped would be donated to another critically ill baby — continued to beat in her own tiny body.

She is now healthy enough to be raised in her family's residence north of Toronto.

How she gets there may net one media outlet an exclusive story — should any be willing to fund a medical grade, six-seat helicopter. That's the exchange proffered by a family spokesman yesterday, one day before the baby was to be discharged from the Hospital for Sick Children.

"The family would allow that reporter to basically travel with them in the air and to land with them," said J.P. Pampena.

As of late afternoon yesterday at least one media outlet had made an offer, along with at least one other donor, said a spokeswoman from Pampena's office.

Offering one reporter exclusive access during that pre-paid journey, which he estimated could cost at least $800 each way, didn't pose any ethical dilemma, he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

COLIN MCCONNELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Jason Wallace and Crystal Vitelli, with their media rep J. P. Pampena, appeal to the media yesterday for a helicopter to transfer their daughter Kaylee home from the Hospital for Sick Children.

No God for Guides?

The possibility Girl Guides of Canada will drop any reference to religion from its all-important Guiding Promise is drawing an angry response from parents, who have taken to Facebook to debate the issue.

"This speaks to people's fundamental values, and I think that's why it's touched a nerve," says Louise Simos, whose nine-year-old daughter Alexandra is a Girl Guide in Toronto.

"It's a bit of a hot potato."

Discussion began almost immediately on a Girl Guides Facebook page late last week after a survey on the promise arrived in the homes of Guiding leaders and families.

The debate, almost universally condemned the survey for containing no option to keep references to God or faith in the promise.

> **"We were not viewed as inclusive as we thought we were."**
> Myrtle Corkum

Chief commissioner Myrtle Corkum said polling found Guiding is seen by most Canadians as a predominantly Christian group.

"We were not viewed as inclusive as we thought we were." said Corkum, who has been monitoring the Facebook debate. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Streetcars funding delay hurts jobs: NDP

TRANSIT The New Democrats say a delay in funding for new streetcars to be built in Thunder Bay will hurt workers in the northern Ontario city.

NDP Leader Andrea Horwath says the provincial government should pony up its one-third funding share for the Toronto Transit Commission's new streetcars.

Horwath says funding the project would support jobs at Bombardier's Thunder Bay streetcar assembly plant, ease traffic congestion and help fight climate change.

Andrea Horwath

She says the streetcar contract is a boost to workers at a time when the province is losing thousands of manufacturing jobs.

Horwath accuses the province of refusing to pay its share, leaving hundreds of workers in limbo.

Deputy premier George Smitherman says the government is willing to find a way to work with the City of Toronto to get the new streetcars, but adds he's still evaluating funding applications for eligibility. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

SHOOTINGS Police don't yet know if three separate shootings in the city's north-west end Tuesday night were connected. The first, at about 5:30 p.m. saw a 22-year-old man stumble into a restaurant seeking help after being shot in the buttocks. Minutes later, a man suffered leg injuries after bullets pierced the back door of a highrise apartment building. About three hours after the first shooting, shots were fired in the lobby of an apartment building. It's unknown if there's a victim. Four men were arrested nearby and an officer involved in the arrest was reportedly hurt. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Sentencing delayed for teen convicted of murdering Stefanie Rengel
A sentencing hearing for a 17-year-old girl convicted of first-degree murder in the stabbing death of another Toronto teen has been rescheduled for next week. Stefanie Rengel, 14, was stabbed on New Year's Day 2008 and left to die on a sidewalk near her east-end home. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Premier defends eHealth spending

Spending $67 million over two years on consultants is part of the "expensive undertaking" tasked to a government agency that's developing electronic health records in Ontario, Premier Dalton McGuinty said yesterday.

The Smart Systems for Health Agency — now part of eHealth Ontario — spent about 15 per cent of its $225-million annual budget on consultants, including pollsters, even though the agency employed 166 people last year with annual salaries exceeding $100,000.

The consultants' fees are not unreasonable given that U.S. President Barack Obama is investing $50 billion over five years on e-health, said Health Minister David Caplan.

By contrast, Ontario expects to spend another $2 billion over the next three years.

"I know that as we ramp up a new agency and organization, that there will become less of a reliance on outside consultants and more work done in house," Caplan said.

But he stopped short of promising sanctions if the fees continue to climb.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Recruiting

- It's tough to recruit top experts by 2015 when President Barack Obama is pushing a similar project in the U.S., Premier Dalton McGuinty said.

Cops seek help finding heist suspects

ROBBERY Police are searching for five teenaged boys, who might be as young as 15 years old, who robbed a Pickering bank last week and put a 27-year-old woman in hospital.

The victim has since been released.

All five are described as black males between 15 and 19 years old. All were covering their faces with bandanas or scarves.

Anyone with information can call 1-888-579-1520 ext. 5355.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Hot Toys **Playing footy in the park**

DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Six-year-old Matthew Versluis plays with the giant Gripper Soccer Ball during the fourth annual Canadian Toy Association's Hot Toys of Summer event in Toronto yesterday.

News in brief

SUSPECT Police released the description of the suspect in the shooting of a 14-year-old in the west end on Monday. Adrian Johnston was gunned down at about 5 p.m. Monday in a field behind homes on Eileen Avenue, near Scarlett Road and St. Clair Avenue West. A post-mortem revealed he died from gunshot wounds to the chest. The suspect is described as male, black, 5'6" to 5'7". He was wearing black clothing, including a black hoodie with a large swirl pattern on the front or back. Anyone with information is asked to contact police at 416-808-7400 or Crime Stoppers anonymously at 416-222-TIPS (8477). This was the fourth fatal shooting in Toronto police's 12 Division in the last three weeks.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Outbreak delays GTA PanAm bid

PROPOSAL Toronto's PanAm bid officials are still waiting to submit their final proposal to host the 2015 games — as the bidding process has been delayed by the outbreak of influenza A (H1N1), also known as swine flu, in Mexico.

The bid book, which outlines specific plans for the games, including venues, transportation and housing details, was originally supposed to be hand-delivered to Mario Vazquez Rana, the influential president of the Pan American Sports Organization, in late April.

But bid chair David Peterson and Canadian Olympic Committee president and CEO Michael Chambers cancelled their trip to Mexico City when the April 30 bid deadline was put off, and Mexico suspended public events and ordered residents to stay home to contain the flu virus.

Peterson said no date has been set for them to make a formal presentation to Vazquez Rana, but the bid book is printed and ready.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Myeloma medication to be covered by OHIP

Ortho Biotech, a company that manufactures a treatment for multiple myeloma, says the medication Velcade will now be covered by OHIP. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Colour barriers

Darker skin leads to alienation: Study

Vanessa Kirunda is the last person you'd expect to be looked down upon.

Poised, articulate, educated and confident, Kirunda can dissect and analyze why Canadians treat her differently because she is black. But all bets were off when schoolmates called her 10-year-old son Sean a n------. Three times. Three different backgrounds.

Kirunda and her son, Canadian citizens who emigrated from Kenya six years ago, face exactly the sort of walls a major study of multiculturalism and society pinpoints.

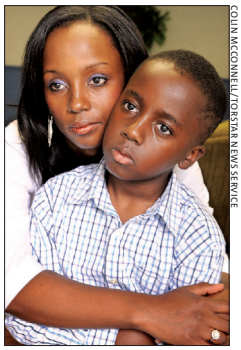
Crunching thousands of numbers from 41,666 people interviewed in nine languages, the just-published study found skin colour — not religion, not income — was the biggest barrier to immigrants feeling they belonged here. And the darker the skin, the bigger the alienation.

"We were surprised that religion didn't have more effect," said lead author Jeffrey Reitz. "It came down to race, with Asian people reporting some, and with young black males the most stigmatized. The data is consistent with that.

"We tend to believe racism is a minor problem in Canada, of little consequence. Someone looked at them funny. Or that many immigrants are doing well, so it must be their fault if they aren't. There is a reluctance to investigate the issue," said Reitz.

The University of Toronto professor of ethnic, immigration and pluralism studies added that a lack of trust was also higher among the successful, Canadian-born, Canadian-educated children of visible minority immigrants.

The study used data from Statistics Canada's 2002 Ethnic Diversity Survey. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



COLIN MCCONNELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Vanessa Kirunda and her 10-year-old son Sean.

Findings

- Among other details, the study found:
- The more discrimination someone faced, the more they were likely to identify with their ethnic group, rather than as Canadian.
- Visible minorities identified themselves much more strongly by their ethnic origin through the second, third and fourth generations.

Lots of work ahead, says re-elected B.C. premier

B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell said there will be lots of work ahead in his third term and all of it will have to happen at once. Campbell gave a news conference yesterday morning fresh from winning a rare third term that saw voters return a legislature that looks almost exactly like the last one. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Plan to sue criminals decried

Proposed legislation in Alberta that would force criminals to pay the health-care costs of their victims is being described as unworkable. Frank Addario, president of the Criminal Lawyers Association, says the Conservatives' legislation is "a terrible idea" and would do nothing to solve the problems that contribute to crime. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

EDUCATION A Quebec historian says the government is "de-nationalizing" the province's past by omitting René Lévesque and obscuring key landmark events in its high school history books and replacing it with "Trudeauesque" lessons of multiculturalism.

RAID A lawyer for Mohamed Harkat says authorities seized confidential legal documents during a six-hour raid on the terror suspect's home on Tuesday. The Canadian Security Intelligence Service contends Harkat is a member of Osama bin Laden's terrorist network.

DEATH An experienced pharmaceutical worker who died after exposure to a chemical that is "toxic if inhaled" was working under a ventilation system that was turned off because of roof construction, says the director of Nova Scotia's health and safety investigation unit. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mulroney close to tears during Airbus testimony

INQUIRY Brian Mulroney came near tears on the witness stand yesterday as he described how accusations of his involvement in Airbus kickbacks threatened his reputation and shook his family.

But one of his aides said Mulroney cracked because two journalists in the audience were laughing as he told his story.

"They were carrying on like a pair of school children," Mulroney said on his website. "It just got to me."

After he sought to outline some work he did in return for payments from German-Canadian businessman Karlheinz Schreiber, Mulroney turned to recounting the impact of a 1995 letter from the RCMP to Swiss authorities which alleged he was involved for years in a separate kickback conspiracy.

Mulroney sued the government and the Mounties for libel and won a $2.1-million settlement. None of the allegations were ever substantiated.

But Mulroney said the original letter and the then-Liberal government's refusal to withdraw it, left him and his family shaken.

Mulroney

Mulroney has said he took $225,000 in cash from Schreiber, which he kept secret for years. He has said he wanted to keep the relationship quiet because he feared a renewal of the Airbus accusations. THE CANADIAN PRESS

PM threatens Grits over changes to EI

Speculation rampant over possible election

Prime Minister Stephen Harper surprised his opponents — and even some allies — by issuing what appeared to be an election threat over employment-insurance reforms.

After signalling for weeks a willingness to enrich employment insurance to help workers hardest-hit by the recession, the Conservatives veered sharply yesterday.

The prime minister categorically rejected a Liberal demand for a single, nationwide eligibility requirement for EI at a uniform level of 360 hours worked.

Harper could not have been any clearer during a debate with Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff: He rejected the idea three times, in both official languages, and declared himself ready to "take him on" over the issue.

Harper's aides stressed the prime minister has not entirely closed the door to further EI changes — just the type being proposed by the opposition.

The exchange touched off speculation on Parliament Hill: Was the prime minister holding out for another EI proposal from the NDP, simply in order to keep the Liberals from taking credit for any changes? Was it an attempt to force the opposition to back off its EI demands? Was it an election threat?

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prime Minister Stephen Harper responds to a question during question period in the House in Ottawa yesterday.

Conservatives launch attack campaign

- The Tories are looking to boost flagging public support by unleashing a TV and Internet attack campaign to define Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff in the Canadian psyche, portraying him as an "arrogant elitist" who returned to Canada after 34 years only to satisfy his political ambition.

Two Harper spokespersons declined to elaborate and said Harper's remarks stand for themselves.

Even Conservative insiders said they were caught off-guard by the exchange. Most had been expecting to accommodate the opposition request, given the Tories' weak poll numbers and lack of interest in fighting an election. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pilot, doctor are Canada's newest astronauts

RECRUITS A fighter pilot and a medical doctor have been hired as Canada's newest astronauts.

Capt. Jeremy Hansen, a native of London, Ont., and Dr. David St-Jacques of Quebec City bring to 12 the total number of Canadians to join the astronaut corps — and are the first new recruits since 1992.

They were chosen from among 5,351 applicants after a year-long recruitment process that evaluated, for instance, knowledge of robotics and levels of physical fitness.

Hansen is a CF-18 fighter pilot and combat operations officer at Canadian Forces Base Cold Lake in Alberta, while St-Jacques has been practising at a small hospital in northern Quebec. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's newest astronauts Jeremy Hansen, left, and David St-Jacques visit Prime Minister Stephen Harper in Ottawa yesterday.

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Unwed with children

Study finds births out of wedlock up

KRISTEN THOMPSON
Metro Canada

More Canadian women are giving birth out of wedlock than ever before, with three out of 10 babies being born to unmarried moms, according to a new study.

Thirty per cent of births in Canada in 2007 were to unwed women, up from 12 per cent in 1980, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the United States.

The upward trend was consistent in most developed countries, with levels doubling and tripling in some cases.

Highest

- Iceland had the highest rate of non-marital births in 2007, at 66 per cent, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

Elizabeth Saewyc, a nursing professor at the University of B.C., said the changing rates can be attributed to a shift in social values away from marriage toward co-habitation.

"It's becoming more OK (for unmarried couples) to live together, so raising children together is more socially sanctioned," Saewyc said, adding that teen pregnancy rates have been declining while birth rates are increasing among adult women.

"Not being married doesn't mean it's not a two-parent household," Saewyc added.

Barbara Mitchell, a sociology professor at Simon Fraser University, added that women are waiting longer to have children so they can be independent.

Swift recovery hopes shot down

ECONOMY Talk about an economic recovery may have been premature. New data from both sides of the border show that while there is reason to believe the economy is no longer in free-fall, it is not about to start growing soon either.

A 0.4 per cent fall-off in April retail sales in the U.S. signals the American shopper remains on the sidelines. As well, a new report finds Canadian airlines are struggling to attract passengers, also an indication of hard economic times.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Exit polls show India's ruling coalition holds slim lead

India's month-long election ended yesterday, with tens of millions casting ballots in a vote widely expected to usher in a shaky coalition government. Exit polls indicated the Congress party-led ruling coalition was narrowly ahead of the opposition. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Astronauts capture Hubble

The Atlantis astronauts captured the Hubble Space Telescope yesterday. Astronaut Megan McArthur caught the school bus-sized orbiting observatory with the space shuttle's robot arm. The astronauts now face five days of treacherous repairs to the 19-year-old Hubble in a lofty orbit littered with smashed satellite pieces and other space junk that could pierce the shuttle or suit of a spacewalking astronaut. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shell strikes kill 50 more in Sri Lanka

HOSPITAL Shells hit the only hospital in Sri Lanka's northern war zone yesterday, killing at least 50 people in the second such attack in two days, a doctor said. Medics at the makeshift facility said they were using brief lulls between explosions to tend to patients but had little to offer beyond gauze and bandages.

It was the third attack this month on the hospital. On Tuesday, shells struck the admissions ward, killing 49.

The military has denied firing any heavy weapons in recent weeks, but Human Rights Watch says both sides are using the estimated 50,000 civilians packed into the last rebel-held territory as "cannon fodder." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Reefs **Livelihood at risk**

DITA ALANGKARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

A diver swims near coral reefs in Komodo islands, Indonesia. Approximately 100 million people risk losing homes and livelihoods unless drastic steps are taken to protect Southeast Asia's biologically diverse coral reefs, which could be wiped out in coming decades because of climate change, a World Wild Life Fund report warned yesterday.

Obama seeks to block pics

In a reversal, U.S. President Barack Obama is fighting the release of dozens of new photos showing U.S. personnel allegedly abusing prisoners in Iraq and Afghanistan, a White House official said yesterday.

Obama's decision came after the top military commanders in Iraq and Afghanistan told the president they feared the release of the photos could endanger their troops.

Obama decided he did not feel comfortable with the release and last week instructed his legal team to challenge it in court, said the official.

Federal appeals judges have ruled the photos should be released.

Through an arrangement with the court, the Pentagon was preparing to release, by May 28, two batches of photos, one of 21 images and another 23.

Barack Obama

The American Civil Liberties Union, which is suing the government for the release, criticized the decision. "The decision to suppress the photos is profoundly inconsistent with the promise of transparency that President Obama has made time after time," ACLU lawyer Jameel Jaffer said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

AFGHANISTAN Ninety-five Afghan children are among the 140 people said to have died in a recent U.S.-Taliban battle in western Afghanistan, a legislator involved in the investigation into the deaths said yesterday. The U.S. military disputed the claim, saying the graves they saw looked too small to contain so many victims.

CRAIGSLIST Online classified ads service Craigslist will get rid of its "erotic services" category that critics called a front for prostitution, replacing it with an adult category that will be reviewed by website employees, U.S. state attorneys general announced yesterday. Pressure to remove the category increased after a Boston student was charged with killing a masseuse who authorities say he met through Craigslist. Two months ago, Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart filed a lawsuit alleging that Craigslist allowed the solicitation of prostitution.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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*These savings offers exclude items with prices ending in .97 & .88, Lands' End brand, Special Purchases, manufacturers' clearance items, twin packs & multipacks, Columbia outerwear and currently advertised items.

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Comment & Views

Comment

Dysfunction dying out

Relating

Steve Collins

metronews.ca/collins

As we continue our efforts this week to find the good in these tight-money times, it only makes sense to contemplate the unbuyables — health, happiness and, of course, love.

On the relationship front, I could offer tips on romantic outings to the local Service Canada office to file for employment insurance together, or getting reacquainted with your parents as you move back into their basement, but the secret to the SunnySide Method™ is perspective.

If your job or savings don't bear unpanicked scrutiny these days, you might find it reassuring to take stock of your personal life.

Then again, maybe this is the last thing you want to think about.

There is, after all, when considering one's relationships, a tendency to dwell on the problems and the irritants, no matter how minor.

Relationship columnists, always in search of a conflict on which to hang the story, are doubly guilty of this.

Chances are, though, if you really think about it, things are more right than wrong.

For every one of your love's grating eccentricities, there are probably three everyday kindnesses you forgot that you take for granted. If not, what are you twits still doing together?

SunnySide

And some of us are better at this than others, but it might even be appropriate while taking stock to spare a thankful thought for your exes.

No matter how badly it ended, you've still got the memories, whether bittersweet or giddily pornographic, and everything you learned from each other — even if in the end it had to be learned the hard way.

Your important relationships aren't limited to the romantic, either.

Your friends and family, the softball team or the co-workers (if you still have co-workers, of course) all populate that vital non-economic part of life.

For every small way these people drive you crazy, they make up for it by lending a hand, sharing a laugh, making you see things differently.

If brute optimism isn't enough to get you through, the occasional piece of statistical evidence pops up to suggest we're getting better at getting along.

For example, in new research from the University of Lethbridge, Canadian teenagers are reporting better relationships with their parents today than any teens in the last 30 years.

Arguments are down, and mutual enjoyment and understanding up, according to the national survey.

Less dysfunction at home should mean less mess later, as it's striking how much the dynamics of future relationships resemble those first ones within your family, so this is an encouraging trend.

Steve Collins offers his best guesses on relationships for Metro every two weeks.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Views

Sheeple sheds light on MP's time with PM

Garth Turner

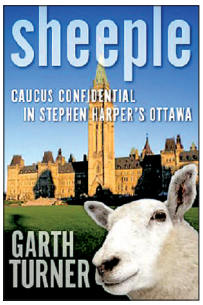
"Garth who"

So the official response to my latest book by the Prime Minister's Office summed things up nicely.

I couldn't have put it better myself.

After all, these were the guys who'd obsessed about what to do with me, how to stop my blogging, from talking to reporters, from webcasting in the foyer of the House of Commons and from scrutinizing my own party's policies, for the entire time I was a Stephen Harper MP.

It was just days after I was elected again in 2006 that Harper's right-hand man, chief of staff Ian Brodie, ordered me to go offline — or be punted from my own party. Ten months later, he and his boss did just that. And when they did, for the high crime of opening my mouth and having an opinion, they alleged instead I had broken caucus confidentiality in writing about party secrets.



This is what makes the reaction to my book, Sheeple, ironically tasty. In Harper's caucus, there are no secrets. There's nothing to keep confidential. MPs aren't allowed to speak without prior permission. They know the consequences of questioning the leader or his dictates. Debate does not exist. During my time in that room there was no free discussion on Afghanistan, same-sex marriage, gun control or the environment.

This is because in Harper's Canada, MPs don't matter. Our prime minister believes that Conservatives elected go to Ottawa to work for him and the party. They're employees, to be cajoled, herded, muscled, or in the case of me and Maritime MP Bill Casey, fired for insubordination.

My deep mistake was to believe members of Parliament work for the people who send them there. And that is what I told the guy. The people are the ones an MP must answer to, report to and stand before. The job of the elected is to represent the voters to Ottawa, not come home and tell the citizens what to believe.

In the end, I had to go. The PM was sick of my blog and my lip, and made a fine example of me by tossing me out of his caucus, then out of the party I had belonged to longer than he.

And although I had served two previous Conservative prime ministers, sat at the cabinet table and even been a leadership contender, Stephen Harper dropped the political nuke as a signal to the sheeple in his flock that anyone who displeased him would be dooced.

And then dismissed — like the voters.

Garth Turner served as an MP twice, last elected in 2006 as a Conservative before being ejected from his party. He is a bestselling author of personal finance books. His latest book, Sheeple, is about his political journey.

Letters

SunnySide

Leave your lunch at home and hit a café to help economy

Re: SunnySide initiative

I propose that on Friday, May 29, every daytime worker do not bring a lunch if they can possibly buy it for that day. That includes coffee or tea. The exceptions, of course, would be if it's financially impossible or there's no cafés or restaurants near them.

This would give all local cafés and restaurants across Canada immense business for at least one day. May 29 should generate enough business to get some money circulating from British Columbia to Newfoundland. If it works, perhaps the following month do it again on June 26.

BARRY WOOD, HALIFAX

Organic vegetables can help to reduce system spending

Re: SunnySide initiative

Here are some ideas:

Instead of people opting to work out in a gym, lots of calories can be burned in their backyards by growing organic vegetables. Excess vegetables could be supplied to shelters or home-care centres, thus minimizing government funding. Those government funds can be utilized for creating jobs in less-developed areas.

It's time to rethink the millions of dollars that goes for some ridiculous research project, such as men's and women's grooming habits.

PRADEEP KRISHNA RAO, MISSISSAUGA

Tamils need to respect laws

Re: Tamil protest on Gardiner Expressway

On behalf of the entire Tamil community, I would like to express my sincere apologies to all Torontonians and others who were directly or indirectly affected by our community's Mother's Day protest on the Gardiner Expressway.

I would like to remind and request my follow Tamil Canadians to make sure that we respect the laws and not to infringe on other's rights. It is in our community's interest to solicit and earn each and every other Canadian's support to save our people's lives and freedom.

SHAN SATHANANTHAN, BRAMPTON

Tell us your views by email to torontoletters@metronews.ca or comment on metronews.ca or on Twitter @metrotoronto

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

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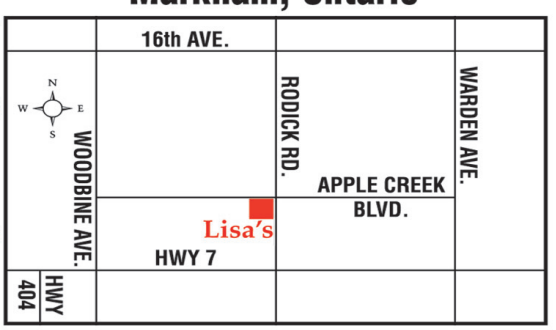

HOURS

Saturday
9 am to 6 pm

Sunday
10 am to 6 pm

Monday, Tuesday, Friday
10 am to 8 pm

WHEN

May 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

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Cineplex Galaxy plans to expand 3-D offerings

Canada's biggest movie exhibitor says it plans to install 122 3-D-capable digital projectors in theatres this summer. Cineplex Galaxy Income Fund says tight credit markets have delayed the industry's conversion to digital projection systems. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

U.S. printer wants to buy Quebecor

PRINTING Chicago-based commercial printing giant RR Donnelley & Sons Co. is bidding more than $1.3 billion US to buy "all or substantially all" of insolvent Quebecor World Inc.

Quebecor World has debts estimated to exceed $1 billion.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business in brief

FURNITURE Leon's Furniture Ltd. says it saw a small decline in revenues and slight drop in margins in the first quarter but believes it picked up market share across Canada through heavy advertising linked to its 100th anniversary. Revenue slipped 0.6 per cent to $195.2 million from $196.4 million. But sales were $42.66 million, up $811,000 or 1.9 per cent.

SPIRITS Corby Distilleries, a liquor company whose brands include Wiser's Canadian whiskies, Lamb's rum, Polar Ice vodka and Seagram Coolers, reports its net profit in the first quarter fell to $5.1 million from $6 million, though revenues rose slightly. The Toronto company said it earned 18 cents per share.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Insurance rate going up: ING

Home and auto insurance premiums are set to rise across the industry, ING Canada warned yesterday while reporting a $36.3-million first-quarter loss blamed on a one-time charge in its investing operations.

$26.9M

ING Canada said its home insurance segment lost $26.9 million due to more claims related to rapid snow melt.

"The increase in claims costs in auto insurance in Ontario, the uncertainty associated with the minor injury cap in Alberta as well as the water-related damages in home insurance are leading to premium increases in personal insurance," the country's largest property and casualty insurance provider stated.

"In business insurance, current market indications suggest that the pricing environment may begin to firm up."

ING Canada — newly independent of former parent ING Group of Holland and changing its name to Intact Financial Corp. — also noted that "lower investment yield and lower capital levels could also contribute to increased premiums during the year."

The $36.3-million net loss, worth 30 cents per share, compared with a year-ago profit of $23 million, 19 cents per share.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

GRAHAM HUGHES/CP

Peter Swinburn attends Molson Coors' annual meeting yesterday in Montreal.

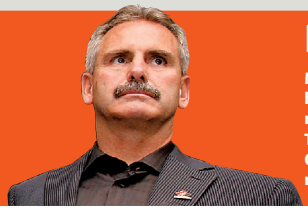
Brewer focused on great brands

BEER Despite the difficult economic climate, Molson Coors Brewing Co. will continue to stay focused on building "great beer brands" like Coors Light, the head of the U.S.-Canadian beer maker, Peter Swinburn, said.

Molson Coors' Canadian market share fell by three-quarters of a percentage point, while the industry was down 1.2 per cent because the company decided not to fully participate in deep discounting in Quebec. THE CANADIAN PRESS

PGA charitable donations down
The PGA Tour estimates its donations to charity will decline by as much as 14 per cent this year, the result of an economic downturn that is affecting everything from sponsors to hospitality sales. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports



Desjardins to head juniors

Medicine Hat Tigers coach Willie Desjardins, left, has been named head coach of the Canadian junior men's hockey team chasing a record sixth straight gold at the world junior hockey championship. The 52-year-old from Climax, Sask., was an assistant coach on Pat Quinn's coaching staff when Canada won its fifth consecutive gold medal Jan. 5 in Ottawa. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Crosby bests Ovechkin

Pittsburgh eliminates Washington with wild Game 7 win

Stanley Cup
2009 **Playoffs**

NHL RESULTS

Penguins 6 **Capitals** 2

So much for all of the hype about Sidney Crosby vs. Alex Ovechkin, Penguins vs. Capitals, Game 7.

This second-round series ended with a thud, thanks to a perfect performance by Sid the Kid's Penguins — and a lacklustre one by the Capitals.

Crosby scored twice to take his NHL-leading playoff goal total to 12, and Pittsburgh chased rookie goalie Simeon Varlamov early in the second period while shutting down Ovechkin most of the night in a 6-2 victory over Washington last night.

Everyone chipped in for the Penguins, from the stars to the second thoughts, from regular-season scoring leader Evgeni Malkin's two assists, to fourth-line forward Craig Adams' first goal in 42 career post-season games.

Second-year defenceman Kris Letang, 38-year-old Bill Guerin and Jordan Staal scored, too. Marc-Andre Fleury made 19 saves and didn't allow a goal until his team led 5-0.

Pittsburgh's 4-3 series victory after trailing 2-0 moves it closer to a second consecutive trip to the Stanley Cup finals, something the team last did in 1991 and 1992.

The Penguins will face the Boston Bruins or Carolina Hurricanes in the Eastern Conference finals. They play their second-round Game 7 at Boston tonight.

For the Capitals, this setback extends some dispiriting trends.

They are 2-6 in Game 7s, including 0-3 against the Penguins and they have lost seven of eight playoff series against Pittsburgh — including four times after Washington held a two-game lead.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pittsburgh's Sidney Crosby scores on Washington goalie Simeon Varlamov as Tom Poti looks on. Crosby scored two goals last night as the Penguins beat the Capitals 6-2 in Game 7.

Richmond falls to Yankees

MLB RESULTS

Toronto 2 **New York** 8

BASEBALL The Toronto Blue Jays tried to not make too much of Tuesday's impressive win over the New York Yankees, and they'll surely want to similarly downplay the miserable loss that followed last night.

Canadian righty Scott Richmond didn't make it out of the second inning in the worst start of his short career, while the offence failed to make an inconsistent Andy Pettitte pay in an ugly and tedious 8-2 loss to the Bronx Bombers.

The brilliant atmosphere from the amped up crowd that took in Roy Halladay versus A.J. Burnett in the series opener was completely absent from this one. Only 20,164 were on hand and they were given little to cheer about in a game that painfully plodded along, as working fast and throwing strikes appeared to be foreign concepts to the pitchers on both teams.

Compounding matters, the Blue Jays (23-13) gave their fans precious little to cheer about after they took a 1-0 lead in the first when Aaron Hill scored on a Robinson Cano throwing error.

Richmond (4-2), looking to bounce back after giving up five runs in a complete game loss versus Oakland last week, was dreadful. He opened the game with a pair of strikeouts and fooled no one after that. He's now allowed 10 runs over his last 9⅔ innings, after giving up only nine over his first 30⅓ innings covering five starts. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports in brief

STREAK Ryan Zimmerman's 30-game hitting streak ended when he went 0-for-3 with two walks, but Shairon Martis allowed two hits over seven innings to remain unbeaten this season in the Washington Nationals' 6-3 victory over the San Francisco Giants yesterday.

OLYMPICS Olympic athletes blogging during the 2010 Games won't be allowed to use the iconic Olympic rings on their web pages. But otherwise, the International Olympic Committee has left the rules around blogging mostly unchanged. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Balance
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Taylor returns to Dolphins

Jason Taylor has rejoined the Miami Dolphins. Taylor's agent, Gary Wichard, says the 34-year-old linebacker signed a one-year contract yesterday with the team. Taylor played his first 11 seasons with Miami before being traded to the Washington Redskins. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Man. U closes in on EPL title

SOCCER Another crucial goal by Carlos Tevez moved Manchester United to within one point of a third straight English Premier League title with a 2-1 win at Wigan yesterday.

United had trailed to Hugo Rodallega's 28th-minute goal until Tevez went on as a substitute and equalized just three minutes later with a 61st-minute tally.

England midfielder Michael Carrick then scored the winner with four minutes remaining at JJB Stadium.

United needs only to avoid defeat against visiting Arsenal on Saturday to clinch the championship with a game remaining and go level with Liverpool on a record 18 titles.

"We'll approach the game the way we always approach a game," United manager Sir Alex Ferguson said. "It is against a very good Arsenal side."

Liverpool is six points behind United ahead of its penultimate game at West Bromwich Albion, also on Saturday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Chad Barrett celebrates after scoring Toronto FC's lone goal in the Nutrilite Voyageurs Cup last night against the Montreal Impact. Toronto are undefeated in the Canadian Championship.

From bench to hero

Barrett gives TFC stranglehold on Voyageurs Cup

SOCCER RESULT

Toronto 1 Montreal 0

Chad Barrett scored the strike of his career last night to give Toronto FC a 1-0 victory and a bit of revenge over the Montreal Impact in the Nutrilite Voyageurs Cup yesterday.

TFC (2-0-0) now has six points in the race for the Canadian title, having beaten the Whitecaps 1-0 last week at BMO Field. Montreal and Vancouver, both of the United Soccer Leagues, are 0-1.

Barrett's goal in the 35th minute started as he settled a pass from Jim Brennan and then hammered home a half volley from 25 yards out. Barrett had begun the game on the bench and was only subbed into the game in the 16th minute when Marvell Wynne left with a sore hamstring.

Each team plays one another in a home and home series. The team with the most points advances to the CONCACAF Champions League tournament.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

LeBron a unanimous choice

NBA LeBron James should be getting used to sweeps.

The Cleveland Cavaliers star was a unanimous selection to the All-NBA first team yesterday, after leading his club to a franchise-best regular-season record and playoff sweeps of Detroit and Atlanta.

The NBA announced its first-, second- and third-team squads yesterday.

James was put on the first team on every ballot of 122 sportswriters and broadcasters who regularly cover the league. Lakers star Kobe Bryant finished second in voting, making the first team on 119 ballots, while Dwight Howard of the Magic, Dwyane Wade of the Heat and Dirk Nowitzki of the Mavericks rounded out the first team.

James, the league's MVP, was a first-team selection for the second straight season after finishing second in the NBA in scoring at 28.4 points and ranking in the top 10 in steals and assists. He led the Cavaliers to a franchise-best 66-16 record and the team's first top seed in the playoffs.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CanCon

- Neither Toronto Raptors centre Chris Bosh nor Victoria's Steve Nash, a point guard with the Phoenix Suns, received enough votes to be named to the squads. Bosh received 56 points while Nash had seven.

SCOREBOARD

MLB

YESTERDAY'S AL RESULTS
N.Y. Yankees 8 **TORONTO** 2
Cleveland 4 Chicago White Sox 0
Tampa Bay at Baltimore
Seattle at Texas
Detroit at Minnesota
Boston at L.A. Angels
Kansas City at Oakland

YESTERDAY'S NL RESULTS
Atlanta 8 N.Y. Mets 7
Washington 6 San Francisco 3
Pittsburgh 5 St. Louis 2
L.A. Dodgers 9 Philadelphia 2
Florida at Milwaukee
San Diego at Chicago Cubs
Houston at Colorado
Cincinnati at Arizona

TODAY'S AL GAMES
N.Y. Yankees at **TORONTO**
Detroit at Minnesota
Seattle at Texas
Boston at L.A. Angels
Cleveland at Tampa Bay
Baltimore at Kansas City

TODAY'S NL GAMES
Florida at Milwaukee
L.A. Dodgers at Philadelphia
San Diego at Chicago Cubs
Houston at Colorado
St. Louis at Pittsburgh
N.Y. Mets at San Francisco

NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Pittsburgh 6 Washington 2

TODAY'S GAMES
Carolina at Boston
Anaheim at Detroit

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Dallas at Denver

TODAY'S GAMES
Boston at Orlando
L.A. Lakers at Houston

Want to play hookie? **You belong at the game.**

Jays VS Yankees

Tonight @ 7:07pm
Ladies Night Out — Sit in the Ladies Night Out section and receive a FREE Blue Jays Cap

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A chalk board in your own house
Rust-Oleum has released new spray-on chalkboard paint, great for a child's room or the door of the pantry, where you can write To-Do and grocery lists. Visit rustoleum.ca for more information. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Metro Homes

No more mess

Ever try to stain a wooden piece of furniture and end up staining your hands, arms, legs and the floor? Verathane has the answer for you with it's new line of foam stains. Simply apply the foam to wood and rub in and you're done. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Your home as a stage Pg 18

SARAH DORIO PHOTOS OF BRIAN PATRICK FLYNN INTERIOR DESIGNS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

There is a perfect way to stage your home for sale: Find out the tips and tricks to do so on page 18 in today's Metro Homes section.

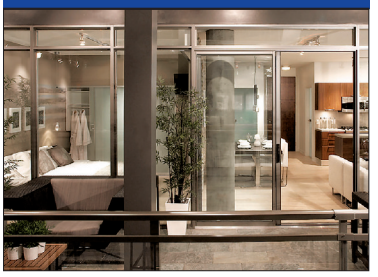
Style At Home Pg 16

Kimberley Seldon designs the perfect hearth for you.

Homescape Pg 20

The ins and outs of a spring ritual: Opening the cottage.

Suite Talk Pg 21



Getting the young and urban into mature sophistication.

Gardening Pg 24

Check out a variety of ways to contain your potted plants.

Decor
Read more in the June issue of STYLE AT HOME magazine.
ON SALE NOW! styleathome.com | styleathome

Fireside chats

Home and Style

Terrific trio

FURNITURE How much punch can you pack into one set of furniture? Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams delivers a knockout trio of hardworking, highgloss nesting tables with a removable drawer that doubles as a 20-inch square tray. Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams Mia Nesting Tables in Shale; $795; Elte, 888-276-3583, elte.com; mcandbw.com

–PRODUCED BY MARGOT AUSTIN
WRITTEN BY BRETT WALTHER

PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS PHOTO

Kimberley Seldon

A gracious fireplace is the ideal focal point for a living room. Its architectural presence commands attention, its warmth is a comfort in cooler weather, and it provides a natural anchor for the main seating arrangement. It also allows for several options when it comes to arranging furniture. Perhaps one of these three floor plan ideas will spark your own creative space planning.

Formal

The most formal arrangement is to place an identical pair of sofas perpendicular to the fireplace. That creates a strong, immediate impression and emphasizes the mantel's role as focal point. To finish the conversation grouping, you might place two chairs facing the fireplace. Add a large area rug, a central coffee table and end tables to complete the scene. If there's sufficient room, a pair of footstools positioned directly in front of the fireplace would be great.

Semiformal

In similar though more casual fashion, position one sofa perpendicular to the fireplace but arrange a pair of chairs (rather than a second sofa) opposite. That works well if the chairs are placed between the living and dining room or entrance, as it may be preferable to look toward two chair backs and an interesting end table rather than toward a full sofa back. It's most common to upholster the chairs in a fabric that coordinates with the sofa, rather than match it exactly. To finish the conversation grouping, add two different chairs or perhaps a daybed or bench.

Casual

For an even more casual arrangement, use only a combination of chairs, as in the photo. Here, the oversize chairs face each other, providing a tête-à-tête spot for the young couple who live in this home. The upholstered ottoman makes it the go-to spot for reading and relaxing. If more seating is required, you could have four chairs facing each other, with a bench facing the mantel. You might forgo a standard coffee table and opt for a taller games or library table. Although the table would block the fireplace from view, it would provide a cosy perch near the hearth, an ideal spot for a rousing game of cards..

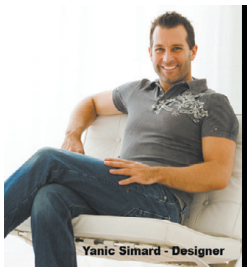
–WRITTEN BY KIMBERLEY SELDON

TED YARWOOD PHOTO

Filling the hearth

- Some decorative ways to fill the fireplace for the season.
- Stack dry firewood.
- Fill the hearth and firebox with thick pillar candles.
- Place a decorative fire screen front and centre.
- Add dried flower arrangements or small statue.

STYLE AT HOME



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Window shopping **Beautiful baubles for the cupboards**

Like a stunning piece of jewelry, an exquisite cabinet knob is the perfect finishing touch. By Lauren Flanagan

–LAUREN FLANAGAN

Left: Sunburst brass and mother-of-pearl $18, Anthropologie; anthropologie.com

Undulating Leaf nickel-plated bronze $6 US, Michael Aram; michaelaram.com

Beaded glass $8, Abbott; abbottcollection.com

Ruffled brass and resin $15, Anthropologie; anthropologie.com

PHOTOGRAPHY BY STEVE RHODES

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Staining concrete
Rather than ripping up old concrete patios, stairs, driveways and walkways, why not give them new life with a fresh new colour with Rust-Oleum's new line of concrete stain? METRO NEWS SERVICES

SARAH DORIO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brian Patrick Flynn, designer of this room, suggests making your home stand out by adding architecture with inexpensive picture rail installed as paneling.

The art of home staging

It's a question all homeowners face when they decide to sell: How can you make your home as appealing to potential buyers as possible?

"It really depends how much your home is worth," says New York-based interior designer Janine Carendi. "Is it in move-in condition?"

Not everyone should invest in fancy upgrades and fresh coats of paint, she says. But all homeowners can benefit from reorganizing and beautification.

Carendi and fellow designers Mallory Mathison and Brian Patrick Flynn offer some tips on making your home market-ready on a budget:

Outside help

"Always listen to the professional you're hiring to sell your home," Carendi says. "The agent has so much experience, and he or she can see the potential of the home and how they want to market it."

Some owners hire a staging company to redecorate their home specifically to appeal to buyers. A cool twist on that idea: Flynn suggests hiring a photo stylist (a regional magazine can probably recommend one) to give your place a fresh look.

"Home stagers are all the rage right now," Flynn says, "but magazine photo stylists are the masters at turning spaces into cover shots packed with 'wow' factor. They not only make the rooms look their best but they also know the proper styling to suggest a room's use."

First impressions

A good first impression won't guarantee a sale, but a bad one can scuttle it, says Mathison: "If the entry way is blasé, that can set a precedent for the rest of the house."

Outside, she says, clean thoroughly and "pay close attention to the front door. You want it freshly painted or stained." Keep the lawn trimmed, if you have one, and add a few potted plants near the door for a look that's "pulled together but not overdone."

Inside, consider touchup painting in the entryway, and add a mirror if the area doesn't get much natural light. If the front door leads directly into your living room without a foyer or vestibule, Flynn suggests using furniture to "create the sense that you're walking into the area where you decompress." Add a bench near the door and a console where someone could drop their keys and mail on arriving home.

Clean and fresh

"I see fingerprints on white doors all the time," Carendi says of homes that are for sale.

Clean as thoroughly as you can, perhaps hiring a cleaning service for one or two visits. Pay attention to doors, baseboards, light switch plates, ceiling fans and windows. Clean all appliances, especially older ones, so they sparkle.

Then take a good look around and consider minor repairs or repainting.

Clear the way

Banishing clutter is crucial: Uncluttered rooms feel larger, and buyers will have an easier time envisioning their own belongings in the space.

Spend a weekend clearing off countertops and purging the home of anything you don't want or need. Box up offseason clothes and put them in storage — your closets will look bigger and part of the packing will be done when it's time to move. Put extraneous furniture in temporary storage or lend it to a friend.

Also, says Mathison, remove anything you're sure you don't want to part with. Got some vintage light fixtures or beloved furniture?

"Take that out of the equation, if you can't part with it," she says, "so there's no arguing over it in negotiations."

Remove yourself

"It's a rule to take out two-thirds of your things," Mathison says. "Make it a generally inviting space, rather than something right just for your family."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SARAH DORIO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This photo released by Sarah Dorio shows a small unused space repurposed as a game room by Brian Patrick Flynn.

Green Barbecuing

Lokkii goes organic

• Lokkii, the organic fire brand, recently released what they call the first line of organic barbecue products in Canada. All of the products in Lokkii's new line are 100 per cent organic, made from recycled materials and do not contain harmful chemicals or additives.

• The new Lokkii Smart Grill is specially designed to work in tandem with the BBQ Bricks from the organic line of products. The grill is easy to assemble, weighs only 4.5 kg and offers 426 cm of grilling surface.

• Working with the Smart Grill (above), the Lokkii BBQ bricks are an organic alternative to charcoal. Ready to bake in 15 minutes, the instantly lighting, recycled charcoal bricks offer 11,500 BTUs and give the same cooking time as a five-pound bag of charcoal.

• Lokkii's Hotrods Firestarter provide instant, natural ignition and stay hot for 20 minutes — perfect for indoor and outdoor fireplaces. Better yet, they are 100-per-cent organic and petroleum and nitrate-free.

• Liquid Fire from Lokkii is derived completely from plants, is totally organic and very concentrated, so it requires less of the product to start pesky fireplaces, wood-fired oven or traditional charcoal barbecues.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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BREAKING NEWS

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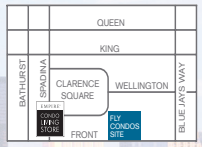

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FLY's Grand Opening An Incredible Success

Hundreds pack the Empire Condo Living Store on Opening Day!

FLY Condos' Grand Opening on May 9th attracted well over 800 people. In a market that has been described as uncertain, attendees at this incredible event demonstrated confidence that well-priced suites in an exceptional location overcome the recent downturn. Waving cheque books and waiting in-line, savvy purchasers wanted to be first to select true value suites at FLY – and with prices from just $159,900 – they weren't disappointed. In fact, 330 of the 458 available suites sold out during the 2-day event, making it Toronto's most successful new condominium opening this year.

This stunning condominium community, located at 352 Front Street West between Blue Jays Way and Spadina, across from the Rogers Centre and the CN Tower, was recently re-tooled to fit the changing market. The developer, Empire Communities, studied the market carefully and concluded that right-priced, smaller suites would attract first-time buyers and investors. And so they designed 12 new suites – from studios to one-bedroom and one-bedroom with den layouts. The incredible prices of these suites, together with all-time low interest rates, combine to make owning a condominium at FLY a very attractive possibility. In fact one can own a condo at FLY for much less than renting!

According to Empire Executive Vice President Paul Golini Jr., "In keeping with the results of our customer research, FLY's re-designed smaller floor plans are affordable and right for today's market. We're pleased that a wide spectrum of suites sold, from studios to three-bedrooms. FLY's stunning exterior and interior features and finishes, plus exceptional building amenities remain a huge selling point."

The Empire Condo Living Store on opening day.

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It's a buyer's market out there . . . and this is absolutely the best time to buy a condominium at FLY. Interest rates have never been lower, prices are great with downtown condos from just $210,900. An excellent selection of suites remains from one-bedroom to three-bedroom layouts up to 1,112 sq. ft. If you are a first-time buyer, the banks have modified their "affordability index", making it even easier than ever to buy your first home. But don't wait – the suites and the opportunities won't last forever!

Striking architecture on Front St. W. from just $210,900.

The 3 most important things in real estate: Location! Location! Location!

When it comes to location, FLY soars above every other downtown condominium. Situated on Front St. between Blue Jays Way and Spadina, FLY is within walking distance to everything you love about Toronto – the shopping, restaurants, nightlife – the professional sports venues and the financial district. All this plus historic Clarence Square park right outside your door! And FLY is just moments from the Gardiner, TTC and Union Station with GO transit – to whisk you anywhere you need quickly and effortlessly. There are lots of condominium choices in Toronto, but when it comes to location, FLY delivers!

FLY's location and price are creating a stir.

Now is the time to make the right choice.
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Hit the cottage, bring a tool belt

HomeScape

Opening up the cottage is a North American ritual and it so happens that the usual time for this is just about any day now.

And when cottagers make their way to their cottages for the first time this year, what will they find? Perhaps a dock that has been damaged by ice, or even swept down the bay, a railing that has been damaged by a fallen tree or a roof damaged by branches brought down by snow. Inside, you may find mouse nests in the cottage linens, mouse droppings in the cupboard, and gnawed through flour containers in the kitchen.

Ah, such are the delights of cottage life. You never know what you'll find on that first trip of the season.

One thing is clear. And that's that people who do a thorough job of preparing for the winter in the fall are a lot less likely to suffer from a nasty surprise, come the cottage-opening season. For example, I once left a rusty old barbecue in the far corner of the porch of my parents' cottage over the winter. It hadn't been used in years and my plan was to take it to the dump in the spring.

I learned there and then that I should have dealt with it in a more timely fashion. When it was time to open the cottage, we discovered we had had a visit(s) from what we judged by the footprints to be a sizable bear. It looked as if it had tipped that old barbecue over, and then proceeded to shove it around the deck with considerable enthusiasm, leaving an indelible mess of soot, coals and ancient grease.

During the fall closing, you've got to be thinking about battening down the hatches, and stowing away stuff securely. Lock up the cottage tightly and put away anything that can be damaged by animals, wind and weather.

And for those people who have not been as conscientious as they should have been about draining pipes, tanks and pumps, I feel bad for you. Cottage opening will likely be a miserable affair, spent fixing burst pipes with a propane torch and solder in the back-bending and spider-webby crawl space.

In fact, leaving anything liquid in the cottage to freeze over the winter is a poor idea. Imagine the delight of finding leaking ketchup bottles and cracked relish bottles in the cupboard, and split shampoo bottles in the bathroom vanity.

Sylvia Putz is a journalist with an interest in decor and design. She's written for the TV show Arresting Design; sputz@arrestingdesign.com.

Hints and tips

- In the spring, check all pipes and connections before you prime the water pump.
- Visually check exterior wiring to the cottage to spot any fraying or damaged lines before you power up the cottage.
- Wait for the hot water heater to fill up with water before you flip the switch to start it up for the season, or you could burn the heating elements.
- Cut back dead or damaged branches. Also check wood siding for any sign of rot, and pay special attention to caulking around windows. Look onto the roof for missing shingles or fixtures.
- On the interior, inspect for any water damage on ceilings or walls. This can help you spot leaking problems that may not be visible on the outside.
- Clean cupboards and be on the lookout for mouse droppings. If you find them, clean with antiseptic solution and remember to wear mask.
- Inspect decks and railings and secure any loose planks or handrails.

–SYLVIA PUTZ

Opening up the cottage can be joyous time, but the problems that you may have to deal with can be very time consuming.

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The designers of the new condominium, The King East, at King and Parliament streets, wanted a suite that was for the young urban demographic, but without the flashy colours employed elsewhere.

Mature style and sophisticated flair

Suite Talk

BRIAN COULTON
for Metro Canada

Like a new leaf on an old plant, new condominium The King East may be rooted within Toronto's 10 native city blocks at King and Parliament streets, but it emphasizes the modern.

"I'm a big believer in modern architecture," said Brad J. Lamb, President and CEO of The King East developer, Lamb Development Corp. "Modern architecture, to me, means a lot of glass, steel and concrete, or at least elements of all of those. The whole idea behind it was to deliver something based on the etiquette of design in 2009 — not … from the past."

The building's exterior aesthetic also runs through its core, with suites featuring stone counters, glass doors and oak floors.

"We didn't go with a basic oak or maple. We went with a riff cut, specially stained oak, so it actually looks like a different wood than oak," said Lamb.

Wood also permeates the kitchen, in cabinets and counter bases. And while Lamb said wood is often associated with the country in Canada, he contends it's a different story in Europe

"If you buy an Italian kitchen for your apartment in Rome, quite often it will be walnut or cherry. We wanted to deliver a wood kitchen that represented modern technology, thinking and design."

The King East was designed for a young, urban market, said Lamb, but despite age, he aimed to offer a sophisticated flair to quash mistakes other developers make when targeting the demographic.

"A lot of times when developers are designing for young people, they have like red and yellow and green kitchens, thinking that's what young people want. Just because the colours are fun, it doesn't mean young people want them," Lamb said with a laugh. "We wanted to design a building that had more muted tones with natural materials. It's mature styling for younger people."

Suites at The King East range from 452 to 2,486 square feet. Prices start at $149,000 and extend to $1.6 million. For more information, visit thekingeast.com or call 416-214-0333.

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Higher roofing prices hit U.S.

It's an expense homeowners must face eventually, however tight the household budget: Roof replacement.

Those who find themselves needing new shingles this roofing season may be surprised to find prices rising even though the home-renovation market has slowed and petroleum costs less than it did last summer.

The price of asphalt shingles, which cover the vast majority of houses in the United States, rose 57.5 per cent from March 2008 to this past March, according to the U.S. federal Bureau of Labor Statistics' Producer Price Index. This year, it went up 3.8 per cent from February to March alone.

Soaring petroleum prices last summer accounted for much of the rise in asphalt shingle costs then. Asphalt is derived from crude oil.

But this year, there may be a surprising factor at play: Asphalt is most in demand for roadwork, and government attempts to revive the struggling economy include an infusion of money for roads.

Manufacturers said roofing-shingle prices rose in March "due to the shortage of asphalt, and asphalt, it's a little hard to come by. They're expecting a big rush on the asphalt because of the stimulus package and roadwork," said Bob Kersch, co-owner of Brothers Roofing Supply in New York City.

Last year's high petroleum prices are having a lingering impact on asphalt shingle prices, said James Baker, spokesman for the Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association.

"It takes time for things to readjust back down," he said. In addition, hurricanes, hail and other roof-damaging weather can drive demand for shingles up rapidly.

The bottom line is that homeowners shouldn't expect bargains on new roofs, even as home values and the overall demand for housing renovations have plummeted.

"We're not foreseeing any big price increases" in coming months, said Bill Good, executive vice-president of the National Roofing Contractors Association. "But we're also not seeing any big price drops."

That is true across all roofing product lines, not just asphalt shingles, Good said. It is possible, though, that the federal economic stimulus package will pump up demand for road asphalt and lead to additional increases in asphalt shingle prices, he said.

Material and labour costs can vary widely, regionally and contractor to contractor, Good said. Though new-home construction is down dramatically in the United States, the roof replacement/repair market overall is fairly steady, he said.

"What we're seeing is homeowners deferring as long as they can on a buying decision, which is certainly understandable in the economic environment today," Good said.

Here's one recommendation from Good and others if you do need to have your roof replaced:

- Make sure the contractor has a licence — if required — and proof of insurance. You can also check with regulators to find out if a contractor is licensed and insured.

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Green materials remain popular

Canadians recognize the long-term, cost-saving value of building a home with sustainable materials. Recession or no recession, survey findings show that in the next five years, the 'green' building market in North America is expected to double with up to 20 per cent of us insisting on the use of sustainable materials.

NEWS CANADA

Nudura's concrete building system is very eco-friendly.

"A green home uses less energy and natural resources," says Todd Blyth at Nudura, a Canadian company known for its concrete building system to replace wood. "An environmentally responsible structure creates less waste and is healthier and more comfortable for the occupants. Other equally important benefits include lower energy and water bills, reduced exposure to mould, mildew and other indoor toxins that are often associated with traditional building methods. As a result, the net cost of owning a sustainable home is comparable to cost of a conventional one."

When talking to your builder, ask for materials and systems that meet established green criteria and work in conjunction with each other.

"Concrete is a good place to begin," says Blyth, referring to the award-winning, Nudura building system. This greener process builds walls to the roof with a method that entails interlocking forms with two layers of polystyrene, steel reinforced, and filled with concrete.

"The resulting walls deliver far superior performance than the traditional wood frame method. A home constructed this way will improve your lifestyle — and if combined with our ceiling and floor insulation, you will see even greater benefits to the environment, to your operating costs, and to the overall re-sale value of the house."

The forms can be ordered in a variety of sizes and shapes so that your walls and ceilings can be built to any design. As importantly, concrete walls eliminate the risk of mould growth and allergens, so common with wood. **NEWS CANADA**

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Canadian Gardening Magazine
Read more in the May issue of Canadian Gardening magazine.
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Outside Decor

Canadian Gardening

Self-contained

Fun salvage ideas for playful plant pots

There's no need to throw out that old drawer, or send those pop cans off to the recycling plant. Check out these interesting ideas for the 'pot' part of your own potted plants.

• Kids left their toys in the garden once too often? Use those old trucks to hold low-growing marigolds or pansies.

• Jaunty upstarts like lobelia go casual set in empty plastic yogurt tubs.

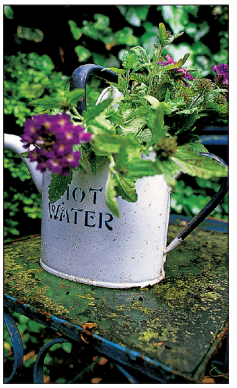
• The rough look of a weathered tin can with a peeling label is a suitable match for hard-edged plants.

• Keep old watering cans, pails, bins and buckets to house mid-sized plants, then nestle the container underneath a tree or by a pond as a visual surprise.

• Vintage tins with playful designs are the perfect accent for white geraniums in an old-fashioned cottage garden.

• Bedding plants like this blanket of alyssum, right, find a sweet home tucked into an old drawer.

–PRODUCED BY SUZANNE MOUTIS



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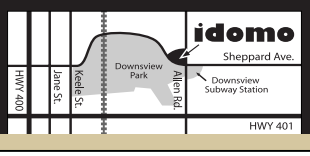

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Woodchips, more than cosmetic

Stores are now awash with wood and bark chips. Besides the usual supply available at nurseries and garden centres, clean white bags of chips are also neatly stacked in front of hardware stores, supermarket, even convenience stores.

These piles of chips are feeding our springtime urge to spruce things up. Yet the benefit of chips can be more than just cosmetic.

Spread on top of the soil, chips break the impact of raindrops so that soil stays in place rather than washes away. Chips also are an effective insulator, protecting shallow roots from the heat of summer sun. In keeping the soil cool, chips slow evaporation of water from the soil so it stays more moist.

All the chips now on sale are testimonial to the fact that last year's chips have gone away, decomposed. That's not a bad thing, though, for decomposition releases plant nutrients and enriches the soil with humus.

Chips don't need help

Some people spread a weed barrier of black plastic or landscape "fabric" over the ground, then top it with a thin layer of chips. Used in this manner, chips are purely cosmetic, their only function being to hide the ugly material underneath.

Besides depriving the soil of some of the benefits of chips, spreading chips over a permanent weed barrier leads to other problems. For instance, the barrier gets very messy if you ever want to move plants around. And it's not really that good at permanently thwarting weeds, which start to creep into the chip layer on top of the fabric.

Worst of all is when the alleged weed barrier inevitably begins to peek through as the chip layer slides around. Then even the cosmetic benefit is lost.

Rather than using a non-decomposable weed barrier, pile chips right on top of bare soil or, if weeds are present, on top of paper or newspaper mulch, which eventually decomposes.

Chips don't need bags

Some gardeners have the notion that chips sold in bags are superior to those made from locally chipped trees. One fear is that termites would infest wood other than cedar, which is often the wood source for bagged chips.

Termites feed on a variety of cellulose sources, including old roots, twigs and other material in and on the ground; a mulch of chips contributes insignificantly to the existing smorgasbord.

How about diseases spreading from those chipped, dead trees to the plants under which you spread the chips? This should not be a problem because most fungi that attack living wood cannot survive on dead wood, so would expire in the chips.

Fungi also are picky in just whom they will attack. So even if you spread chips from a diseased pine tree beneath your maple tree, your maple won't get sick unless the disease survives in the dead chips; is capable of infecting maple as well as pine; and has conditions conducive to disease spread. You might as well worry about being hit by lightning on a sunny day.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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The benefit of chips can be more than just cosmetic. Spread on top of the soil, chips break the impact of raindrops so that soil stays in place rather than washes away.

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INFORMATION FEATURE

THINKING AHEAD WITH GOOD VIBES!

As far back as 2005, Pablo Tiscornia recognized the potential in Toronto's Liberty Village and decided that owning a condominium in this emerging area would be a wise choice for the future. "I was living in the area, and although it was somewhat undefined at that time, I knew it would grow very nicely. I looked at Monarch Corporation's Zip Condos + Lofts, and I was pleased with the prices."

Pablo was pleased with a lot more. This pharmacist from Toronto engaged in some left-brain thinking before he made his decision to buy a 615 square-foot suite. "I love the design of Zip," he said. "I'm Latin, so sunlight is important to me and my wife, Celina, and our seven-year-old daughter, Kiara. I approached the purchase with a lot of thought. I calculated the linear footage of the windows over the square footage of the entire suite. I wanted a number that had a large ratio, and Zip was far better than other condominiums for sale in that area. In general, Monarch's floorplans have no wasted space. Their designs are very sharp."

> *"Every penny I have put into Monarch suites since 2005 is worth the same and more today. That didn't happen in the stock market!"*

What happened next was a great example of the domino effect and a tribute to Monarch's "Make a Friend a Neighbour" program. Monarch rewards loyal purchasers through its special loyalty program (ask a sales representative for details). That afternoon, Pablo told a friend that he had bought a suite at Zip. That evening his friend spoke with her husband in South America and she mentioned the purchase. Her husband said he thought they should buy a suite at Zip too. Pablo went along to help her choose a design, and he took advantage of Monarch's referral program. "A few weeks later," he says, "my sister-in-law, who was renting, mentioned that the idea of owning at Zip appealed to her. I helped her figure out the financial aspects, and we discovered it was feasible. She bought a suite, so I had another referral. The location, amenities, designs, features and prices were so good, it just seemed right to everyone."

Already sold on Monarch's quality, Pablo was interested when Vibe, the company's final phase at Liberty Village, opened for sale. "One weekend, there was an attractive incentive offered and I decided to purchase a suite there," he explains. "Then my brother-in-law who has two children showed interest, so we purchased another suite together. And two of my friends went together to buy yet another suite at Vibe. For us, we are thinking of our children's future. When they're independent someday, they will need a place to live, and Liberty Village will be all the more in demand. This area is booming. Every penny I have put into Monarch suites since 2005 is worth the same and more today. That didn't happen in the stock market!"

It's easy to understand why Liberty Village is already such a popular residential area to purchasers such as Pablo and his family. The neighbourhood is home to an eclectic assortment of boutiques, cafés, galleries, pubs and nightclubs. Within a few minutes, residents of Zip and Vibe can walk to Little Italy, Kensington Market, High Park, the Exhibition Grounds and Lake Ontario

At both Zip and Vibe, suites include impressive appointments including panoramic views from expansive windows, plus incredible building amenities. The Zip Club and The Vibe Club have special occasion/party rooms with a caterer's kitchen and bar that opens onto a landscaped patio; Sports Lounges; Cyber Lounges, Theatre Rooms; and Fitness Rooms. Plus, residents have access to the Battery Park Club with its indoor swimming pool, whirlpool, steam rooms and meeting room.

A member of the Canada Green Building Council, Monarch is committed to developing a greener lifestyle in its condominiums by including many energy-efficient features. Recently, Monarch received the prestigious "Green Builder of the Year" Award from BILD (Building Industry and Land Development Association).

Discover a great selection of one- and two-bedroom suites at Vibe from 389 to 909 square feet, priced from only $204,990. By appointment only. Call 416-591-2259. For an overview of Monarch's communities, visit www.monarchgroup.net.

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New Homes

How best to make more money

Last week I began discussing the topic of real estate investment, as it pertains to residential real estate. Judging by the response I'd say that it's a topic on the minds of many Torontonians these days. I'd like to carry on and bring to light a few more matters with respect to this topic.

When it comes to residential real estate investment it seems that views are polarized — some believe it's more difficult than trying to predict the weather these days, while others believe that making money in real estate is a virtual guarantee. My view is simple — while it is relatively easy to turn a profit in the residential real estate market in the GTA, depending on how long your turnover plan is, why not do it the absolute best way possible?

> **"Purchasing real estate for the purpose of invesmtment is a different practice altogether than finding a home to live in."**

Look at it this way. If you wanted to bake an apple pie, you could probably use the first recipe you find on the Internet, follow it close enough, and chances are the pie will suffice at your dinner party. On the other hand, you could hunt for a recipe with very good reviews, a proven following of bakers, from a site that appears professional, follow it to a T, and chances are that much better pie will pop out of your oven. Of course baking a pie is much more trivial than a real estate investment — so doesn't it make good sense to make sure you try and make your investment the best it possibly can, rather than simply throwing some batter into the oven and hoping it comes out edible? This focus is what separates those real estate investors who hang onto a property for 2-3 years and pocket $10,000 versus those who turn $50,000 in the span of 12 months. Of course the capital involved goes a long way in determining your best option, and the actual rate of return can help illuminate the most logical decision, but these technical topics are better left discussed in detail, or in a dedicated article.

Today's best investments may not necessarily be the same as those of a few years ago. New condos, for instance, came with fewer caveats two or three years ago than they come with today, in many instances. A very good investment option today involves taking a multi-plex in a very good location and converting it into a single-family home. I recently sold a four-plex near High Park for around the $800,000 mark — fair market value for the property as it stood. As a single family home, based on accurate comparables, the same home would be worth upwards of $1-$1.1 million. Assuming renovation costs of about $60,000-$75,000, the investor stands to make a solid profit, especially with the way the market stands today — buying on the low and selling on the upswing.

Buying a low-quality home in a good market, renovating and then flipping the home is again becoming a sound strategy.

High Park is one area where such an option can be a lucrative one. Other neighbourhoods across the GTA might appear to present similar options but the demand for large single family homes may not merit such renovations. The option of finding low quality homes in high quality areas, renovating and flipping, has once again become a desirable option, in a few specific areas, in this market. The Beaches and Bloor West Village rank amongst the best neighbourhoods to carry out such investments. The demand for these areas normally indicates that a good quality home will fetch a lucrative price and there remain enough low-grade properties that the ability to find one worthy of upgrading is not impossible.

Remember that purchasing real estate for the purpose of invesmtment is a different practice altogether than finding a home to live in. It's important that the focus of one or the other not be confused.

Amit is a Realtor/Developer with Re/Max. amitp@rogers.com

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Going with retro styles for your kitchen may not only be cheaper, but more eco-friendly, too.

Many flavours of retro kitchens

When Jeannette Noyes chose laminate countertops for the remodelled kitchen in her 1915 Indianapolis home, it was about more than cost.

"I didn't want to take the kitchen to a level that was way beyond the rest of the house," says Noyes. The new kitchen, she says, fits the house and "doesn't overpower it."

Of course, the savings didn't hurt. The estimate she got for granite counters was about $4,000 US, compared to $800 to $900 for Formica.

Given the price difference, even homeowners who want a totally modern look are now thinking twice about laminate countertops, as are some new home builders, says Mark Karas of Adams Kitchens in Stoneham, Mass.

For a long time, granite was a given in new construction "no matter what the price point," he says.

"Now we're going back to basics."

In flooring as well, traditional materials such as linoleum, which had fallen out of fashion, are boasting updated looks, improved quality and lower cost.

These materials have come a long way, says Daniel Dietz of D.J. Dietz Designs in Reedsburg, Wis. As his company's website says, "It's not your grandma's counter any more."

You can choose laminate countertops in hundreds of colours and patterns, from several brands.

"The colours are always being updated to match the trend in colours," says Karas. Some patterns replicate stone more closely than ever before with textured finishes; others are abstract patterns that just do their own thing without copying a natural model.

Laminate also is longer lasting and wears better than it used to. And with material coming in 3.5-metre (12-foot) lengths, just a little planning eliminates the need for most seams.

It's also possible to have the undermounted sink that's typical of granite countertops — that clean look without an overlapping lip.

"A huge benefit of the granite or solid surface was the undermounted sink. Now we can get that look at one-third or one-fourth of the price," says Dietz.

If you don't like the look of those dark seams where the material meets along the edges, the easiest solution is to choose a medium to dark colour, so there isn't as much contrast with the core.

Some lines of laminate have also introduced "solid-core," where the colour goes all the way through.

There are also installation techniques that eliminate the line, including bevelling the edge and inserting a thin stripe of the material facing out, and "rolled edge," in which the sheet of laminate is bent over the edge of the countertop.

If you have your heart set on stone, Karas says some suppliers are coming down in price at the lower end.

However, the price can only drop so far because the process of shaping stone is more labour-intensive, and there may be fewer choices; his firm currently offers five stone colours comparable in price with the highest-end laminate.

As for flooring, Dietz says, "I think traditional vinyl floors are very underrated. The looks are better than ever, and so is the wearability."

An even more traditional choice is linoleum — and there's a modern reason to pick it, too.

"Because it is made of sustainable materials — primarily linseed oil — the popularity of linoleum has skyrocketed," says kitchen designer Sandi Perlman of Indianapolis, who oversaw Noyes' remodelling.

You can check out:

- http://adamskitchens.com/
- http://djdietz.com/
- http://www.indykitchen-designer.com/

"It's not your grandma's counter any more. ... The (laminate) colours are always being updated to match the trend in colours."
Daniel Dietz of D.J. Dietz Designs

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mind bylaws when building

LegalMatters

Jeffrey D. Cowan

jeff@cowanandtaylor.com

Q I recently installed a pool and jacuzzi in my backyard and afterwards I placed a two-sided pagoda over the jacuzzi so I could use it in the winter. My neighbour had a city inspector to come in to review some work they had done and the inspector noted the structure I had constructed. Lo and behold there was a knock on my door and the inspector requested whether I had obtained city permission to build the structure which is literally less than six inches from the fence and property line. My neighbour doesn't have an issue with it but the inspector is coming back to measure and discuss the matter. What should I do?

A Your situation is quite common and stems from city by-laws about set backs of buildings from the property line. The first issue is to determine if the structure qualifies as a building under the city codes. If it is open on two sides it may not fall within the definition of a building and therefore is not caught by the municipal standards.

Second, municipalities often have size restrictions under which your building is not limited by lot set back restrictions. In this case, I understand that 100 square feet is the limit over which you need to obtain permission. Your structure of eight feet by 12 feet which is 96 square feet. So you may be able to squeak under the by-laws due to the size of the structure.

If it is found that the structure is a building and it is over the lot line limit set by the municipality you should have applied for and obtained a city variance. It's now after the fact and so what could happen?

- You could be subject to a fine, and/or;
- You may be required to file for a zoning variance with what in Toronto is known as the Committee of Adjustments, or;
- You may be forced to remove the structure.

Although most city inspectors are not out to "get you," they are mandated to uphold the municipality's by-laws. Even if your neighbour doesn't mind it is the city who will make the final determination.

Jeffrey D. Cowan is with Cowan & Taylor, Barristers & Solicitors. The info in this article should not be relied upon as legal advice.

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Style

The new faces of L'Oréal

Announced yesterday, two well-known beauties — Evangeline Lilly (far left), and Freida Pinto — join L'Oréal Paris as new world spokespeople for the brand. Pinto is best known for her starring role in the Oscar-winning film Slumdog Millionaire, while Lilly caught viewers' attention in the popular TV drama Lost in which she won a 2007 Golden Globe Award nomination for best actress. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Media maven

Jeanne Beker is the ultimate fashion multi-tasker

BRIAN COULTON
for Metro Canada

There was a time Jeanne Beker recalls when specialization intimated success.

"They used to say 'Jack of all trades, master of none!'" an energetic Beker says with a mocking nasal voice in her downtown Toronto office. "I think it's a very old fashioned notion now. It would be a pretty boring life for me if I was only involved in one medium."

Boring, for the Canadian fashion icon, would make most beat. Beker is the long-time face of Fashion Television, editor-in-chief of FQ and Sir magazines, author of three books, fashion columnist for The Globe and Mail and a judge on CTV reality show Canada's Next Top Model, its third season set to premiere on May 26.

The array of multimedia hats Beker wears today (which surely match those in her closet) stems from her fundamental passion for communication. Before media, Beker was an actress, once studying mime in Paris under Marcel Marceau's teacher Étienne Decroux. It wasn't until 1975, when she moved to St. John's, Nfld., that she found her voice.

"I was the only mime artist in the province and I got a job in radio," she says with irony. "That's just the proof that I was really all about communication, first and foremost."

St. John's became Toronto, radio turned into television and Beker found herself on the big city small screen, hosting The New Music with CNN-bound JD Roberts. But after meeting all of her youthful rock idols ("I thought, if I interview Rod Stewart once more, I'll lose it!" she quips), Beker, then in her early 30s, says she desired doing something more "age appropriate."

"Fashion's the kind of thing you can grow old in ... Actually, fashion keeps you from ever growing old in some ways, because it's constantly changing. It looked like the next big thing, and we were right."

That prediction has held strong for 24 years, since Fashion Television was created (a run Beker says she'd never have believed if told back then). Today, she continues to be seen running about the streets of the world's fashion capitals with her cameraman and a microphone in hand, reporting from runway shows and interviewing befriended designers from Gaultier to Valentino. But despite her years in the business, Beker says she'll never tire of fashion.

"The only constant in fashion is change. The personalities — the egos, the icons and the drama in fashion — it's all so irresistible. To me, it's the most colourful arena I can imagine."

But, it's also one Beker doesn't know how to progress further in. "I think about it every night!" she says, slapping her desk. She says she only hopes to continue to present popular culture's cutting edge, in a motley manner.

"It's about really reaching out and communicating to people and looking at situations in a multitude of different ways. That's what makes things so compelling — when there are all these different textures to play with."

CTV PHOTO

Fashion journalist Jeanne Beker, second from left, returns to her post as Canada's Next Top Model judge along with (left to right): Mike Ruiz, Jay Manuel, Yasmin Warsame and Nolé Marin.

"Fashion keeps you from ever growing old in some ways, because it's constantly changing."
Jeanne Beker, Canada's Next Top Model judge

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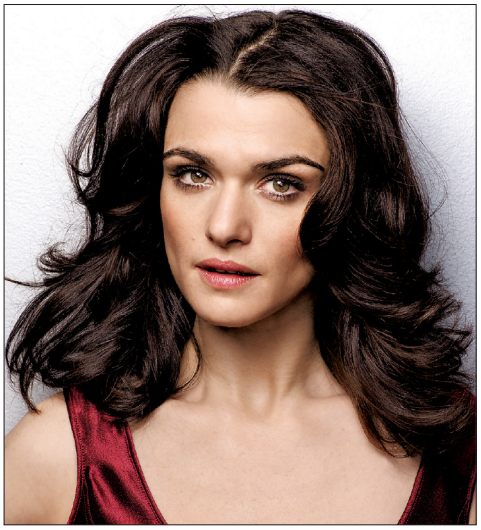

A blooming success

Brainy, beautiful — and funny! Rachel Weisz pulls off a cinematic hat trick

By **ADAM NAYMAN**
Contributing Writer

Listening to Rachel Weisz, one gets the impression that you'd have to get up pretty early in the morning to put one over on her: In the decade since her breakthrough performance as Brendan Fraser's beloved in The Mummy, the dark-eyed Cambridge University grad has developed a reputation as one of Hollywood's brainiest (and most outspoken) leading ladies. But in Rian Johnson's new comedy, The Brothers Bloom, she plays somebody who's hopelessly slow on the take: an endearingly dizzy and sheltered heiress named Penelope who falls precariously in love with a sad-eyed con man (Adrien Brody), much to the chagrin of the latter's brother (Mark Ruffalo), who sees her as just another mark.

"Penelope is kind of gullible," Weisz says — over the phone from New York, where she lives with her boyfriend, director Darren Aronofsky, and their three year-old son, Henry Chance. "She's impressionable and naive — whatever you want to call it. Penelope is also quite literal, and literal can be very funny. I think that it's a rich vein for comedy."

Weisz also notes that shifting into sweetheart mode can be exhausting. "By the end," she says, sighing, "I had used up my entire quota for enthusiasm and wide-eyedness — I was just this cynical wreck. It was like I'd gotten five years' worth of enthusiasm out in one go!"

Editors' Pick

IN THE PINK

From fuchsia to ballerina, pink is hot for summer, says Jason Hoffman, principal makeup artist for Shu Uemura. Seen on models at Kenzo and John Richmond, a statement-making bold lip works best with flawless skin, explains Hoffman. Or play it safe with pastel eyeshadow—but make sure you contrast it with a bold lash line to keep from looking washed out.

Chanel Lèvres Scintillantes in Mica ($31)

M.A.C Beauty Powder in Summer Rose ($26.50)

LIFE'S A BEACH

This spring, summer style washes ashore at the Beach Boutique, a new shop-within-a-shop at Club Monaco's Bloor Street location in Toronto, that offers key pieces for sand, surf and city survival. Cashmere cardigans paired with textured scarves channel a seaside state of mind, all in the new white, ivory and tan neutrals. (clubmanaco.com).

RESIN IN THE SUN

A splashy statement necklace is the simplest wardrobe update of the season. Mirjana Scepanovic's wood and resin discs are a boho take on the trend: casually crafty without looking DIY ($210, mirjanascepanovic.com).

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Washing tips
Grit and sand can wedge itself in the tightly compacted tips, so wash well, lightly scrubbing the tips. Break off asparagus stems where they snap easily, composting the ends. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Food

Look for firm, straight spears with deep green or purple tips that are compact and tightly closed. The stem ends should be moist and green, not grey, cracked or dry. BARB HOLLAND/FOR METRO CANADA

Same size
Skinny, medium or large, the size isn't the issue, but try to pick similar size spears for even cooking. Medium to large are better for the grill.

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

The first spears of summer

À la carte

The first long weekend of the 'summer' generally heralds a number of openings — the cottage, Farmers' Markets, firing up the grill and the sightings of the first vegetable of season, asparagus.

In a survey conducted in February for Weber-Stephen Products Company to determine consumer trends, 68 per cent of Canadians said they prefer grilling in the summer while 32 per cent report grilling year-round.

Asparagus and Prosciutto with Lemon Vinaigrette

Asparagus season is short, usually just four to six weeks, depending on weather and locale, so grill some up soon. This recipe, from a terrific cookbook Weber's Way to Grill, the Step-by-Step Guide to Expert Grilling by Jamie Purviance, would be good with grilled chicken, salmon or pork. Makes 4 servings.

INGREDIENTS:
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) apple cider vinegar
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) finely diced shallot
- 2 tsp (10 ml) finely grated lemon zest
- 1 tsp (5 ml) Dijon mustard
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) each: kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1½ lbs (750 g) asparagus (about 1-1/2 bunches)
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) kosher salt
- 4 thin slices prosciutto

METHOD:
Preheat barbecue to medium heat.

In small bowl, whisk vinegar, shallot, lemon zest, and mustard. Slowly whisk in oil. Season with salt and pepper.

Wash asparagus well, snap off ends. Drizzle asparagus with a few tablespoons of the vinaigrette and season evenly with salt.

This recipe comes from Weber's Way to Grill.

Grill asparagus and the prosciutto over direct medium heat, with the lid closed as much as possible, until the asparagus is tender and the prosciutto is crisp, turning once or twice, 6 to 8 minutes for the asparagus and 1 to 2 minutes for the prosciutto. Arrange asparagus on a platter, spoon on remaining vinaigrette, and crumble the crispy prosciutto on top.

©2008 Weber-Stephen Products Co. Recipe from Weber's Way to Grill™ by Jamie Purviance. Used with permission.

TIPS:
- The fresher the better, asparagus is best cooked the day you buy it. To store any longer, cut 1 inch (2.5 cm) or so off the ends and wrap the ends in wet paper towel and store in plastic bag; or store like flowers, upright in 1 inch (2.5 cm) of water in a container and cover with plastic.
- Roasting and grilling concentrate the flavour of most foods, particularly vegetables that are often cooked in water, such as asparagus. Toss in a little oil, season to taste and grill until tender-crisp but bright green. For doneness, go by looks and texture rather than time.
- Good for you — asparagus is high in folate, a source of vitamin C and A, iron, phosphorus, potassium, thiamine and riboflavin. Low in calories, each spear has about 8 calories.

Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

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Canadian Living recipe of the month

Grilled Mustard Sage Pork Tenderloin and Potato Salad

INGREDIENTS:
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) each Dijon mustard and grainy mustard
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) minced fresh sage (or 1/2 tsp/2 ml dried)
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) each extra-virgin olive oil and cider vinegar
- 1 tsp (5 ml) packed brown sugar
- 2 small cloves garlic, minced
- 1 lb (500 g) pork tenderloin
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) each salt and pepper
- 1 lb (500 g) mini red potatoes, quartered
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) light mayonnaise
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) chopped gherkin pickles
- 2 green onions, chopped

METHOD:
In glass bowl, combine Dijon and grainy mustards, sage, oil, vinegar, sugar and garlic. Remove 1 tbsp (15 ml) and reserve for potato salad. Add pork to bowl, turning to coat. Cover and refrigerate for 10 minutes or for up to 8 hours.

Place pork on greased grill over medium heat; close lid and grill, turning once, until juices run clear when pork is pierced and just a hint of pink remains inside, about 20 minutes. Sprinkle with half each of the salt and pepper. Let stand for 5 minutes before slicing.

Meanwhile, in saucepan of boiling salted water, cover and cook potatoes until tender, about 10 minutes. Drain; let cool.

In bowl, combine mayonnaise, pickles, green onions, remaining salt and pepper, and reserved mustard mixture. Add potatoes; toss to coat. Serve with pork.

DAVID SCOTT

For more great recipes, visit metronews.ca.

online
For more Tested-Till-Perfect recipes, visit canadianliving.com

Packing a lunch for work? Remember to eat it

A California office worker cleaning a refrigerator full of rotten food created a smell so noxious that it sent seven co-workers to the hospital and made many others ill. The mixture of moldy lunches and disinfectant caused 28 people to need treatment for vomiting and nausea. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Looking for the good life?

SunnySide

COOKBOOK Metro borrowed the following edited excerpt and recipe from David Rocco's latest book Dolce Vita (HarperCollins) to breathe a little fresh air into your life. The good life.

Dolce Vita

Literally translated, dolce vita means "sweet life." Life has its ups and downs, but I believe you can find a little dolce vita even on the worst days.

To me, dolce vita has nothing to do with money or social status or possessions. It's about being present in those moments in life that bring you joy. It's a sip of perfect espresso in the morning. It's the patina of a rugged old kitchen table that has seen a thousand family dinners. It's a nod hello to a stranger as you struggle down the street in the morning to catch the bus.

Dolce vita is linked to food, cooking and family. I remember waking up on Sunday mornings and hearing my mom in the kitchen, with the radio tuned to an Italian station. I'd sneak into the kitchen, and she'd pretend not to notice as I ripped a piece of bread from the fresh loaf on the counter and dipped it into the tomato sauce gently bubbling away on the stove. Then I'd head to the den and sit down with my dad to watch some soccer. The air would be rich with the smell of his espresso, and I'd get a little poured into my glass of warm milk.

That's dolce vita!

These cookies aren't really ugly, but they're definitely good and easy to make, says TV host and cookbook author David Rocco.

Brutti Ma Buoni (Ugly but Good)

These cookies aren't really ugly, but they're definitely good and easy to make. The name comes from the fact that they don't have a regular cookie shape. These are native to Tuscany and were invented to use up egg whites, because so many Tuscan dishes call for the yolk. Makes 24 cookies.

INGREDIENTS:

- 6 egg whites
- 1 cup (250 ml) toasted almonds, coarsely chopped
- 1 cup (250 ml) toasted hazelnuts, coarsely chopped
- 3/4 cup (175 ml) sugar
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) all-purpose flour, plus extra for dusting
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) cocoa powder
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) amaretto
- 1 1/2 tsp (7 ml) vanilla extract
- Butter, for greasing cookie sheet

METHOD:

Put the egg whites in a bowl and beat them until they get very airy and form nice white peaks. It's important that the peaks not break, so don't overbeat them. The airiness gives the cookie its light texture, so don't dump in your other ingredients. Instead, sprinkle in the almonds, hazelnuts, sugar, flour, cocoa powder, amaretto and vanilla. Now gently, gently fold everything together.

Grease a cookie tray with some butter, dust it with a little flour and then use a spoon to drop the dough onto the tray in little blobs, leaving approximately 1 inch (2.5 cm) between each one.

Bake for 20 to 30 minutes or until golden and firm to the touch. If you like chewier cookies, underbake them slightly. Remove them from the oven and transfer them to a wire rack. Let them rest for 30 minutes or until cooled.

LiquidAssets

Peter Rockwell

metronews.ca/liquidassets

Three cheers for these beers

Ah, the first fair-weather long weekend of the year is on the horizon and the drinking is easy. Whether it's Molson, Labatt, Keith's, or any one of the dozens of excellent micro-brews (with a hometown shout out to Nova Scotia's Garrison and Propeller breweries) made across our vast piece of geography, nothing goes better with a Canadian three-day than a few too many cold ones.

I'll be in the land of Queen Victoria and the neighbourhood locals for most of the celebration: Spending some time tasting my way around the London International Wine Fair. That doesn't mean I won't indulge in a brew or two during my travels.

I've had the chance to tour London's own **Fuller's** Brewery in Chiswick more than once and their **ESB (500 ml, $2.50 - $3.99)** — which stands for Extra Special Bitter — is a classic, full-bodied malt-fest with plenty of lively hopes and, you guessed it, bitterness. Combine a pint with your favourite barbecued grub this weekend.

If European lagers from the mainland are more your style, try the **Czech Republic's Czechvar (500 ml, $2.55 - $3.05)** with goulash, roast pork or just about anything. Its golden colour and rich, concentrated flavour oozes drinkablity.

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Peter Rockwell is the everyman's wine writer, working in the liquor industry for more than 25 years and travelling the globe looking for something to fill his glass and put into words.

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Model judge sacked
Former supermodel Paulina Porizkova revealed this week that she has been booted from her judge's post on America's Next Top Model. "Listen, do you know why I am in Los Angeles? Because I am looking for a job," Porizkova informed Craig Ferguson on his talk show. EONLINE.COM

Entertainment

First time
Prince Harry will be making his first formal visit to the United States later this month to participate in the second annual Veuve Clicquot Manhattan Polo Classic on New York's historic Governors Island. PEOPLE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Still angry after all this time

Green Day takes another swipe at America's decaying culture on 21st Century Breakdown

Green **Day**

Album: 21st Century Breakdown
Label: Warner
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕½

IT'S BEEN FIVE years since Green Day completed its transformation from poseur punks to thought-provoking social activists, so no one should be surprised that the group's new album takes another swipe at America's decaying culture. What is astonishing is that the California trio is even more upset and angry about the state of their country, even though a new U.S. president is in power. In this three-act rock opera, the band rails against religion, and alienation among other things. Musically, this is as tight as they've ever been, though some of the more classic rock-sounding tracks aren't as strong as the punk-influenced tunes.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Jim **Byrnes**

Album: My Walking Stick
Label: Black Hen
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕⊕

JIM BYRNES IS probably better known as an actor than a Juno award-winning blues singer. Yet, music has always been Byrnes' primary craft and his last two collaborations with Vancouver roots producer Steve Dawson have created some truly sublime moments. The pattern continues here with help from the gospel harmonies of the Sojourners and some magnificent side players, including Jesse Zubot on violin and Dawson himself on various forms of guitar. The song selection is masterful from the hammer and anvil rhythm of Walk On Boy, the honky tonk take on The Band's Ophelia and the soulful What Are They Doing In Heaven Today.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

MusicReviews
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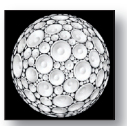
WARNER MUSIC PHOTO

Green Day rails against religion and alienation, among other things, on 21st Century Breakdown.

The Crystal **Method**

Album: Divided By Night
Label: Tiny E Records
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕



WHEN THE CRYSTAL Method exploded on the dance scene in the late-'90s, their competition was limited to a handful of acts. Now, everyone's playing loud, big-beat dance music, so the duo has to step it up if they want to stay relevant. They've tried to do just that by enlisting a bevy of popular indie artists, including Metric's Emily Haines, to sing over their slick electro sounds. While it works to some degree — Matisyahu's Drown in the Now might be his best work yet — it's missing the attack and originality that their younger contemporaries have mastered.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

New York **Dolls**

Album: 'Cause I Sez So
Label: Atco/Warner
Rating: ⊕⊕½

LEGEND HAS DRESSED the New York Dolls up as an early '70s precursor to both punk and glam rock, a band far ahead of its time sacrificed on a pyre of excess and addiction before achieving its due. Truth is, the New York Dolls were simply a great garage band driven with amphetamine-fueled energy and a booze-sodden need to shock. More than 35 years later, we have our second reunion album, featuring the two surviving members David Johansen and Sylvain Sylvain, backed by three other guys (Steve Conte, Brian Delaney and Sam Yaffa). Todd Rundgren, the producer behind the Dolls' 1973 debut, has returned for this album. He captures that garage sound perfectly and there are moments here that live up to the legend, especially on the title track. But it's impossible to bring back that reckless — and ultimately destructive — energy.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Apostle of **Hustle**

Album: Eats Darkness
Label: Arts & Crafts/EMI
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕½

ANDREW WHITEMAN HAS always been odd — he channels spirits and once co-owned a bra store in Winnipeg — and he's used that quirkiness to his advantage. Apostle of Hustle again delivers a boundary-pushing collection of rollicking indie sounds mixed with slick guitars and airy instrumentation. The strangest parts are the fascinating hip hop-like vignettes that seem to make no sense. (On Snakes, a woman says, "The incredible fact about snakes is that they have both boy and girl reproductive parts." Huh?) Whiteman delivers a set of incredibly catchy tunes.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Sophie **Milman**

Album: Take Love Easy
Label: Linus
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕½

THERE ARE TIMES when the world seems awash with "sexy" or "sultry" candlelight-and-wine jazz singers whose phrasing is more important than the power of their instruments. So what makes Milman any different? Hard to say, but there's a timbre and tone to her alto voice that is just so ... likeable. Here, she follows up her Juno-winning Make Someone Happy with a mix of the usual jazz standards by stalwarts such as Cole Porter, Johnny Mercer and Duke Ellington, with some intriguing arrangements of more contemporary tunes. The formula works wonderfully on Paul Simon's 50 Ways To Leave Your Lover and Joni Mitchell's Be Cool, but fails, however, on Bruce Springsteen's I'm On Fire and offers surprising results on Bonnie Raitt's I Can't Make you Love Me.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

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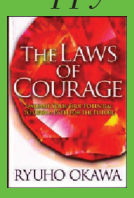

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Connors on stamp, tour

Stompin' Tom Connors is about to do some serious travelling — both on a cross-country tour and with his very own postage stamp. The stamp will likely be available from Canada Post next month. He kicks off his tour on July 21 in Belleville. THE CANADIAN PRESS

FRANCOIS MORI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jury members from left, Italian actress Asia Argento, British screenwriter Hanif Kureishi, South Korean director Lee Chang-Dong, French actress Isabelle Huppert, Indian actress Sharmila Tagore III, American actress Robin Wright Penn, American director James Gray, Turkish director Nuri Bilge Ceylan and Taiwanese actress Shu Qi arrive at the 62nd International film festival in Cannes yesterday.

Up, Up and away

Pixar animated film opens Cannes festival

After nine hits and four Academy Awards for films including WALL-E and Ratatouille, the Pixar Animation gang finally feels it has made it to the grown-ups' table with Up, the first animated movie to open the Cannes Film Festival.

The Oscars compartmentalize animated films into their own category. Audiences often do the same, lumping animation in as a genre meant mainly for kids. But Pixar's creative minds feel the choice of Up as the Cannes curtain raiser signals that animation can stand alongside the best that live-action films might offer.

"It is one of the greatest kinds of rewards, it's one of the greatest things that's happened to us in our career," said Pixar's John Lasseter, who pioneered feature-length computer animation with the two Toy Story movies.

"To see animation respected at the world's premier film festival. To be given opening night ... you pinch yourself. You just can't believe it," said Lasseter, who also oversees animation at Walt Disney, Pixar's parent company.

The English-language version of Up features Edward Asner providing the voice of a brokenhearted widower who renews his spirit of adventure after floating his house off to South America under thousands of helium balloons.

"There's a perception that animated films are for kids. A lot of people have that... The films are made by adults who have very adult concerns," said Ed Catmull, president of Disney and Pixar's animation studios. "What happens now at Cannes is they're recognizing it as a film. Not as a category, but as a really great film."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fest coverage

- The Cannes festival runs through May 24, when the top prize — the Palme d'Or — will be announced. Be sure to catch Metro's coverage of the event in the paper and at metronews.ca

Woman's world at Cannes

The evening gowns glittered, the red carpet was unfurled — and the 3-D glasses were at hand as the 62nd Cannes Film Festival opened yesterday.

Organizers were hoping the opener, the soaring 3-D adventure Up, would provide a buoyant start before the festival plunges into 12 days of movies that take in passion, murder, Korean vampires and a band of Nazi-hunters led by Brad Pitt.

Soon members of the jury, led by French actress Isabelle Huppert would be wrangling over which auteurs — from a slate that includes Pedro Almodovar, Ang Lee, Quentin Tarantino and Ken Loach — should receive Cannes' coveted prizes. But on Wednesday, Huppert was in a gentle mood.

"I don't think we are here to judge," she said. "I think we are here to love films — and to see what we love more than others."

Huppert is one of only a handful of women ever to head the jury at the world's most prestigious film festival.

She said the numbers didn't bother her: her predecessors — who include Sophia Loren and Liv Ullmann — were "women who count for a lot." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Palin penning memoir

Alaska governor Sarah Palin will publish a memoir with HarperCollins. The book comes out in spring 2010 — the year she is up for re-election. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Glee group rocks out

Fox's new high school musical generating buzz

The Glee club went back to school, the real-life Santa Monica High School, for the world premiere of their new musical-comedy TV series.

As chilly ocean breezes blew in, they and hundreds of others gathered to watch the Glee pilot on a big screen in the school's amphitheatre.

Lea Michele, who starred on Broadway in Spring Awakening and now co-stars in Glee, found the night "really exciting."

"It's so great to finally get out and have everybody see it, and we all get to get dressed up with all of my friends and it's fantastic," she said Monday.

From Nip/Tuck creator Ryan Murphy, Glee follows a group of generally awkward but talented singers. Their fates appear to change with the arrival of a teacher (Matthew Morrison) eager to bring the school's glee club back to its old glory. Too bad there's a slew of other faculty members and students just as eager to see him fail. The show's cast includes Kevin McHale, Jenna Ushkowitz, Amber Riley and Chris Colfer.

The pilot has yet to air, but it's already received the kind of press usually reserved for established hits: a full front page in the Sunday entertainment section of the Los Angeles Times, magazine spreads, numerous rave reviews.

The Fox network show makes its on-air debut 9 p.m. ET May 19, following this season's penultimate American Idol, and this Glee club definitely has a favourite among remaining contestants Adam Lambert, Kris Allen and Danny Gokey.

"You know what? I love Adam," said Michele. "I've known Adam for a while. I've known of Adam through the theatre world. So, I'm a really big fan. I think Danny's amazing. So, I'd say it's going to be tight between the two of them."

"Adam," said Colfer.

"Love Adam," injected McHale, "because he's ridiculous. Danny is an amazing singer. I think Chris is a great musician. But Adam is just — he's loud, he's everything. Just to go see his concert would be crazy. He's an amazing, amazing singer."

"Adam is like the new Freddie Mercury meets — I don't know: Genius," said Ushkowitz.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Actress Dianna Agron, right, and actor Mark Salling arrive at the premiere screening of Glee in Santa Monica, Calif., Monday.

"It's so great to finally get out and have everybody see it."
Glee actress Lea Michele on the show's premiere

AIREL SCHAUT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Singer Dave Gahan from the British band Depeche Mode, performs during their Tour Of The Universe 2009 concert in Ramat Gan stadium near Tel Aviv, Israel, Sunday.

Depeche singer in hospital

MUSIC Depeche Mode lead singer David Gahan is not well enough to perform in Athens yesterday, concert organizers said, a day after he was rushed to hospital moments before he was to appear on stage.

Tuesday night's concert north of the Greek capital was cancelled after Gahan, who turned 47 last month, fell ill and was hospitalized overnight. Neither organizers nor the hospital would say what he was suffering from.

About 20,000-30,000 fans who had turned up to hear the British band were told to retain their tickets in case the singer was well enough to reschedule the concert for yesterday.

"Even though everyone hoped for the singer's speedy recovery and the rescheduling of the band's show for today ... according to the information received by the band's management and the doctor on duty, the artist's health condition does not allow it," the concert organizers, Didi Music, said in an announcement yesterday afternoon.

The company said it would make a later announcement as to whether the concert would be rescheduled for another day or definitively cancelled. There was no immediate word on how Gahan's illness might affect the band's next stops on their European tour schedule. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Local show

- Depeche Mode is scheduled to perform in Toronto on July 24.

Morissette joins Weeds, report says

TV Alanis Morissette will trade her jagged little pill for a different drug as the Canadian rocker has been cast in the U.S. television show Weeds, according to a report on Entertainment Weekly's website.

The website is reporting that Morissette has been cast to play Audra Kitson, the obstetrician for Mary Louise Parker's pregnant main character, Nancy.

Morissette will appear in a minimum of seven episodes during the upcoming fifth season, which will air in Canada this fall on Showcase, according to a rep for the network.

The 34-year-old Ottawa native could return next season too, according to Entertainment Weekly.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Kenya Hunt
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"I gave my customer mulberry leaf tablets because mulberry is known to lower your blood sugar after meals. When blood sugar is stable, sugar cravings disappear. And it worked very well. I started recommending mulberry to many customers and soon noticed that they were losing weight. This made me curious, so I studied the effect of mulberries on blood sugar, insulin and fat burning. Surely enough, because of the effect on blood sugar, mulberry leaves also lead to lower insulin secretion, which makes you able to burn stored fat better and also reduces fat storage from excess calories."

The 10-day diet

When Pettersen increased the dosage, recommending two mulberry tablets before each meal, he found that his customers not only controlled their sugar cravings, but also lost significant amounts of weight.

"I recommended that customers follow the programme for a minimum of 10 days in order to eliminate their need for sugar stimulation. Sugar works as a drug on the brain and people need to eliminate the need for a 'sugar high' if they want to stay slim. Taking mulberry leaves, my customers changed to a healthier diet without even noticing it — they simply didn't crave sugar."

1500 people lost weight

After the success of the first customers, word travelled fast. In the last 12 months Pettersen has worked with over 1,500 customers in Alesund and the surrounding area. He feels that his simple and natural mulberry formula has been a tremendous success.

He concludes, "Once my customers try mulberry leaves, they come back, often with friends and family, and buy several packages. It is rewarding because I see them coming back happy, healthy and slimmer."

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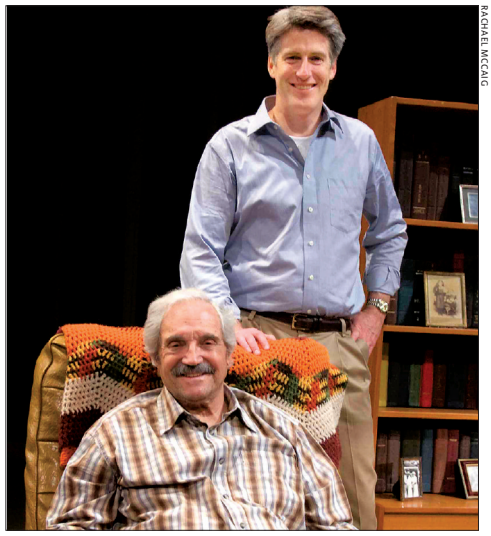
Linden keeps it light

Barney Miller star eschews sentiment in Tuesdays with Morrie

Hal Linden, the beloved, mustachioed star of 1970s cop sitcom Barney Miller, doesn't do schmaltz.


RACHAEL MCCAIG

Hal Linden, seated, with Rick Roberts in a scene from the play Tuesdays with Morrie, on at the Winter Garden Theatre.

So when he was first asked to star in the play Tuesdays with Morrie, based on the heartwrenching, blockbuster book by American journalist Mitch Albom, he was leery.

"I don't deal well with sentiment or sentimentality, let's put it that way," Linden said this week ahead of the play's opening at the Winter Garden Theatre, where it runs until May 31.

Like the bestselling biographical novel and 1999 TV movie it spawned, the play follows Mitch as he learns life lessons from his former professor, Morrie Schwartz, who is dying from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), or Lou Gehrig's disease.

Linden plays Morrie in the Toronto production, being mounted by the Harold Green Jewish Theatre Co. Rick Roberts plays Mitch and Edmonton-raised theatre star Ted Dykstra directs. Linden said he was first asked to star in the play for a touring American production around the time it was adapted for the stage in 2002, but he wasn't able to do it because of an illness in his family. Besides, he admits he was initially "very negative about it, quite honestly."

"I'm not a fan of inspirational books," said Linden, 78, looking pretty much the same as he did when he played Capt. Barney Miller. "There's a whole series of inspirational writers who elude me totally. I don't even like inspirational emails so I kind of shied away, because it is a basically inspirational book."

When Dykstra asked him last year whether he would consider the part again, he agreed because he'd read the script and realized the play "has much more in terms of humour. "Plus, he and Dykstra combed through the play line by line and looked for ways to "eschew all the sentimentality and the kind of self-aware wisdom and make it a play about two journeys."

"It's a question of dealing with a bad problem either with a maudlin attitude or ironically, and irony to me at least has that measure of humour that makes it dealable," said Linden, who was born Harold Lipshitz in New York City and now splits his time between Los Angeles and La Quinta, Calif.

"So when I read the play finally I was impressed by its ironic content, the ability to laugh at the situation and ... get as light as possible rather than sentimental." THE CANADIAN PRESS

On stage

- Tuesdays with Morrie is on at the Winter Garden Theatre through May 31; ticketmaster.ca.

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Lie to Me again

Fox ordered a second, 13-episode season of Lie to Me, starring Tim Roth, on Tuesday. More details of its fall season will be revealed next week. TVGUIDE.COM

Embattled Kiefer finds allies

Actor finds solace with acting family on TV series 24

Kiefer Sutherland, charged with assault in New York, is getting support from his cast mates on the long-running Fox TV drama 24.

Sutherland got a loving hug from co-star Jon Voight and kind words from other 24 actors while at an advance screening Tuesday night of next week's season finale.

"Well, it's, on so many different levels, it is like a family," Sutherland said on the arrivals line.

"We've had, I think, 12 weddings on our show over the last seven years," Sutherland continued. "I think 16 children have been born. We've lost a couple people. So all of those things really pull you together."

The actor is accused of head-butting a fashion designer at a New York City nightclub early last week. He was charged with third-degree assault.

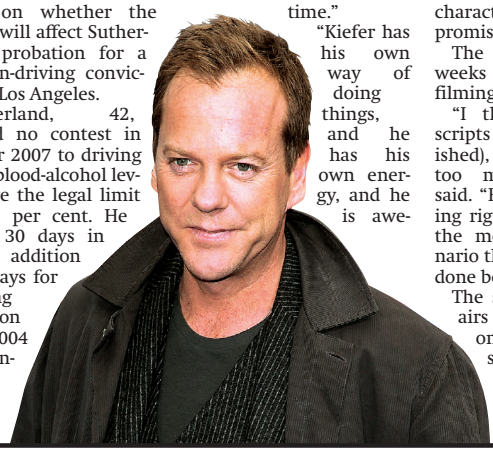
Reporters at the screening were asked not to bring up Sutherland's new legal troubles.

"I've been around the world with him in bars and social situations, and I've never seen anything close to this happening."
24 co-star Carlos Bernard

No decision has been made on whether the charge will affect Sutherland's probation for a drunken-driving conviction in Los Angeles.

Sutherland, 42, pleaded no contest in October 2007 to driving with a blood-alcohol level above the legal limit of 0.08 per cent. He served 30 days in jail, in addition to 18 days for violating probation in a 2004 drunken-driving arrest.

"Kiefer is one of my best friends, and he's a great guy," said actor Carlos Bernard, an original 24 cast member who plays fed-turned-terrorist Tony Almeida. "I've been around the world with him in bars and social situations, and I've never seen anything close to this happening. He always bends over backwards to be courteous with people and to be generous with his time."



"Kiefer has his own way of doing things, and he has his own energy, and he is awesome," said Mary Lynn Rajskub. "And every time I work with him, he brings that energy and that commitment."

This year, 24 has explored the real-life hot-button issue of torture in the name of national security — something Sutherland's character, Jack Bauer, has frequently employed. In Monday's two-part season finale, "you see a real, monumental shift in his character," Sutherland promised.

The cast is just two weeks out from starting filming of season eight.

"I think, maybe, five scripts (have been finished), so I can't tell you too much," Sutherland said. "But where it's starting right now is probably the most believable scenario that I feel we've ever done before."

The season finale of 24 airs 8 p.m. EDT Monday on Fox, and the entire seventh season will be released on DVD the following day.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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5/14/09 primetime	265	353	2	TVO	Containers		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		The Children (Part 2 of 3)		Girl in a Mirror: Carol Jerrems		Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Survivor: Tocantins (N)		The Office (N)	Kink in Hair	Bones		News
	215	343	4	OMN1	2Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere Il	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6	CBC	TBA	TBA	To Be Announced		NHL Hockey: Western Conference Semifinal Game 7 -- Blackhawks at Canucks				
	214	344	7	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Ugly Betty "In the Stars"		Parks-Recreat	30 Rock	Hell's Kitchen (N)		News (N)
	212	313	8	CTV	etalk	Hollywood	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Grey's Anatomy "Here's to Future Days; Now or Never"				News (N)
	218	345	11	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	Name Is Earl	The Soup	True Hollywood Story		Party Monsters: Cabo		News (N)
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	213	326	15	SUN	Scrubs	George Lopez	Smallville "Doomsday"		Supernatural (N)		To Serve and Protect		Becker
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Survivor: Tocantins (N)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		(10:01) CSI: NY (N)		News (N)
	-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Name Is Earl	Parks-Recreat	The Office (N)	30 Rock	Southland "Westside"		News (N)
	-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Ugly Betty "In the Stars"		Grey's Anatomy "Here's to Future Days; Now or Never"				News (N)
	219	346	20	ACH-B	Instant Star	TMZ (N)	Old Christine	Old Christine	America's Next Top Model		Southland "Westside"		News (N)
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	Bones (N)		Hell's Kitchen (N)		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	My Hero	Doc Martin		Britography (DVS)		MI-5 "Strike Force"		Business Rpt.
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Smallville "Doomsday"		Supernatural (N)		PIX News at Ten Tong.		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dr. Phil (HDTV) (N)		WBZ News (N)	'70s Show	Frasier	Frasier	Punk'd
	298	653	332	TLA	Jamie Foxx	Wayans Bros.	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Friends	KTLA News	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Smallville
news	502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Newman	The Hour		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow Report		CNBC Reports (HDTV)		Inside Video Game Industry		On the Money		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22	net	MLB Baseball New York Yankees at Toronto Blue Jays. From Rogers Centre in Toronto.						Memorial Cup Preview (HDTV)		Sportsnet Con.
	400	400	30	TSN	NHL Hockey: Eastern Conference Semifinal Game 7 -- Hurricanes at Bruins					NHL Hockey	SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)		
	411	457	58	OLN	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Departures		Mantracker		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Departures
	417	406	81	SC	(6) Countdown to All-Star		Dave Despain All Star Special		Sprint Pit Crew Challenge (HDTV) (N)				
family	551	542	25	YTV	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	In Real Life		Falcon Beach		Mystery Hnt.
	554	544	45	TEL	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	*Titan A.E.* ★★★ (2000, Science Fiction), Drew Barrymore			
	556	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	602	567	27	W	Will & Grace	Friends	Divine Design	House	Confidential	Save Us-House	Divine Design	Love It-List It	House
cable variety	570	580	29	MM	One Tree Hill		Technical Diff.	Technical Diff.	Daddy's Girls	Degrassi: TNG	MuchTopTens		One Tree Hill
	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami "Shock"		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Io e Mamma (Italian).				Raymond	Raymond	George Lopez
	571	581	36	MMM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		MuchMoreMusicOnStage		Entourage	Gene Simmons	The Daily Fix
	575	583	38	CMT	Shaye: This Is It		Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Gone Country
	616	521	39	SHO	The Outer Limits		Love-Death	Love-Death	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	*Ocean's Eleven* (2001, Comedy-Drama)		
	620	523	40	BVO	Storytellers	Snapshot	Bathroom Divas-Opera Star		*Home Team* ★★ (1999, Comedy-Drama), Derek Lebrero				Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	Skin Deep	Til Debt-Part	X-Weighted "Michelle"		X-Weighted		X-Weighted "Mike"		ET Canada
	522	506	43	HIS	NCIS "Leap of Faith"		Ancient Discoveries		Go Deep "Ice Wreck"		NCIS "Leap of Faith"		Marine Mach.
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	VIP	Extreme Wind	Daily Show
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Holmes in New Orleans		Disaster DIY	Big Amazing	House Hunters	House Hunters	HolmesOrleans
	294	529	47	TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	*Domestic Disturbance* (2001, Suspense)		
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live		*Never Die Alone* ★★ (2004, Suspense) DMX.				College Hill	College Hill	*Never Die Aln*
	627	528	50	SPC	Stormworld	Terminator	Star Trek: Voyager		*House of the Dead* ★ (2003, Horror) Jonathan Cherry.				Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52	MTV	Room Raiders	After	Canada's Next Top Model		Movie Awards	The Hills	True Life		MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	Vanity Insanity	Inside Hollywood		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Raymond	Family Guy	Married... With	Seinfeld
	603	561	56	FOOD	Chef at Home	Exotic	Restaurant Makeover		Jamie's School Dinners		Ace of Cakes	Ace of Cakes	Chef Abroad
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Wait for God	'Allo, 'Allo!	*Robin Hood: Men in Tights* ★★ (1993, Comedy)				Poltergeist
	621	527	63	STR	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		TMZ (N)	etalk	American Idol Extra (N)		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		TMZ
	553	546	65	TRE	Backyardigans	Nght Grdn	Max & Ruby	Franklin	Little Bear	Maggie-Beast	Comfy Couch	Zigby	Max & Ruby
	115	711	101	TVA	Dépenses xtr	Histoires-filles	Dr. House (HDTV) (SC)		Destination Nor'Ouest (SC)		TVA 22 heures	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
	126	730	102	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249	VIVA	Judging Amy "The Pilot"		Most Haunted		Most Haunted		Passion	Homicide File	Psychic Inv.
	300	601	301	M1	*Nutty* (7:25) *Kung Fu Panda* (2008, Comedy)				*10 Items or Less* ★★ (2006, Drama)			*The Bucket List* (2007)	
	305	612	306	PIX	(7:15) *The Left-Handed Gun* ★★ (1958, Western)				*The Hunted* ★ (1995, Action) Christopher Lambert, John Lone.				*Atanarjuat*

critics'corner

The Hunted
Tis 1995 ninja tale is further proof that while Christopher Lambert's "Highlander" character couldn't be killed, his film career can. He appears here as an American businessman in Japan who runs afoul of nasty ninja Kinjo (John Lone) and his minions when he catches them murdering a woman (Joan Chen) whose favors he's just enjoyed. We suggest you hunt for something else to watch. 9 PM on PIX

10 Items or Less
A sweet departure from his usual ponderous roles, this 2006 comedy-drama stars Morgan Freeman as an actor cast as a grocery store manager after a few years out of work. Visiting an inner-city market to research the role, he befriends an insecure cashier (Paz Vega, "Spanglish"). She shows him what life is like in the not-so-fast lane while he helps her learn to embrace her "inner leading lady." Bobby Cannavale and Anne Dudek also appear. 9 PM on M1

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Moonwalk, the sequel?
Michael Jackson is working on a new signature dance move, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The singer has hired choreographer Kenny Ortega to come up with a unique move to rival his famous moonwalk ahead of his summer London residency. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Dad giving up on Amy?

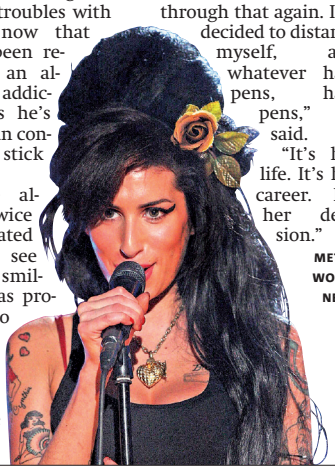
DAD'S LIMITS Amy Winehouse's dad, Mitch, has stood by his daughter through her troubles with drugs. But now that those have been replaced with an alleged alcohol addiction, he says he's not sure he can continue to stick around.

"After she almost died twice from drug-related problems, to see her walking, smiling — she has progressed so much," Mitch says in a new TV documentary, according to Marie Claire U.K.

"But now, if it's alcohol instead of hard drugs — I don't think I can go through that again. I've decided to distance myself, and whatever happens, happens," he said.

"It's her life. It's her career. It's her decision."

METRO WORLD NEWS



GETTY IMAGES

From drug to rap addiction

QUOTABLE Eminem wanted to kill himself at the height of his addiction problems, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The rapper — who is set to release his new album following a three-year-break from music — admits he briefly considered committing suicide while struggling with his alcohol and drug problems.

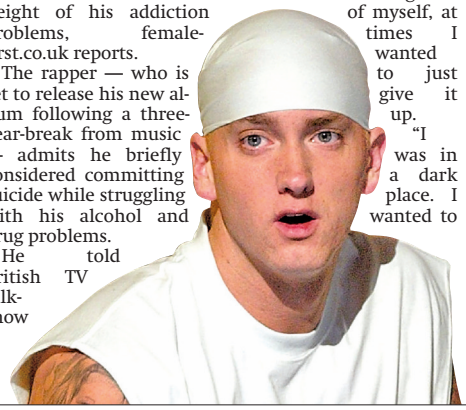
He told British TV talk-show host Jonathan Ross: "I just wasn't taking care of myself, at times I wanted to just give it up.

"I was in a dark place. I wanted to pull back from the spotlight to reassess my whole career," he added. "I got sober but it was pretty rough. A couple of years were bad for me."

The 36-year-old hip-hop star is thrilled with his new material and insists he is only addicted to work these days.

He said: "I almost feel like a little kid again with rap. Rap was my drug. It used to get me high and then it stopped getting me high. Then I had to resort to other things to make me feel that... now rap's getting me high again."

METRO WORLD NEWS

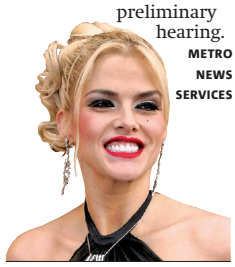


Anna's posse pleads not guilty

DRAMA Three of those in Anna Nicole Smith's most-trusted circle pleaded not guilty Wednesday to conspiring to provide the drugs that killed her in 2007, people.com reports.

Howard K. Stern, 40, Smith's lawyer-boyfriend, her physician Sandeep Kapoor, 40, and Smith's neighbour and psychiatrist Kristine Eroshevich, 61, entered the pleas before Los Angeles Superior Court Commissioner Kristi Lousteau, who ordered the three back on June 8 to set a summer date for a preliminary hearing.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



LiLo avoids burglary

RICH AND FAMOUS Burglars targeted Lindsay Lohan's home, femalefirst.co.uk reports. Police were called to the actress' Los Angeles property at about 3 p.m. on Tuesday after a security alarm at the property was set off.

A police officer said: "It was an attempted burglary. No property was taken. There was evidence that someone tried to get in her house, but there's no evidence that they actually got inside or removed any of her property."

After being alerted to a problem by the property's alarm company, police went to investigate, and found evidence of an attempted break-in, including pry-marks on a door and damage to a window.

E! News has reported a man who has allegedly been stalking the 22-year-old star and making threats against her is a "person of interest" in the case.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

K-Fed can't get enough from Brit?

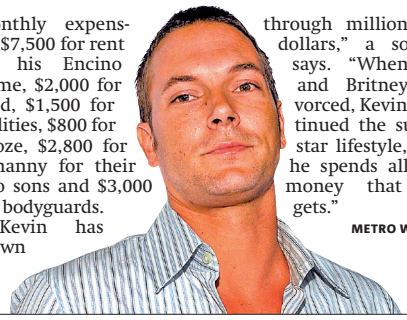
SPENDER NOT SAVER Kevin Federline reportedly can't make ends meet with the $40,000 US a month he receives from ex-wife Britney Spears.

The singer pays Federline $20,000 a month for child support, plus an additional $5,000 a week while she's on tour.

But according to the National Enquirer, it's not enough to cover his monthly expenses: $7,500 for rent on his Encino home, $2,000 for food, $1,500 for utilities, $800 for booze, $2,800 for a nanny for their two sons and $3,000 for bodyguards.

"Kevin has blown through millions of dollars," a source says. "When he and Britney divorced, Kevin continued the superstar lifestyle, and he spends all the money that he gets."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Vanessa to bare all on screen?

RATED R You may be seeing a lot more of Vanessa Hudgens in the future, usmagazine.com reports.

"I will show nudity in a film when the time is right," the 20-year-old High School Musical star tells E! Online.

"If it's an amazing movie that I'm really passionate about and that's what it calls for, then we'll see," she added.

The actress also has appeared nude in 2007, in photos that leaked online.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Hugh wants own Rainbow Tribe

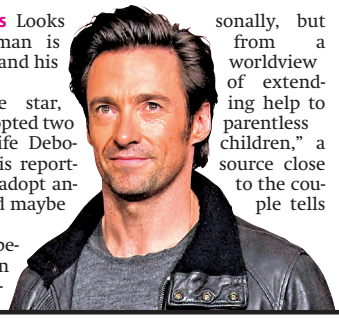
FAMILY ASPIRATIONS Looks like Hugh Jackman is gearing up to expand his family.

The Wolverine star, who's already adopted two children with wife Deborah-Lee Furness, is reportedly planning to adopt another child — and maybe even two.

"Hugh is a big believer in adoption — not just personally, but from a worldview of extending help to parentless children," a source close to the couple tells the National Enquirer.

"They are adopting another child now, and plan to welcome a fourth into their family down the road. It has become their mission."

METRO WORLD NEWS



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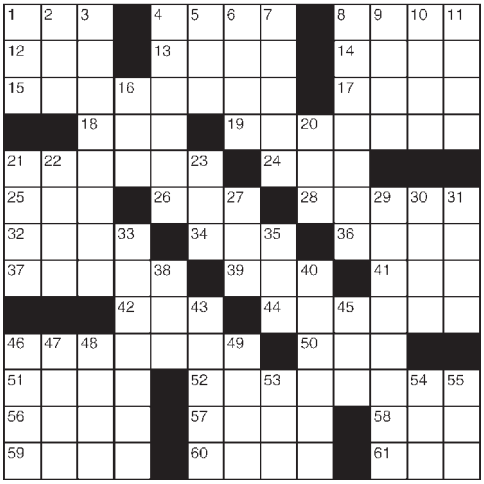

Crossword across

1 Feathery neckpiece
4 Weevil invader
8 Diplomacy
12 Puncturing tool
13 Reed instrument
14 Petri-dish matter
15 Giving permission
17 Entice
18 Online address
19 Exhibition setting
21 Sweeney Todd, e.g.
24 Deposit
25 With 21-Down, "Arabian Nights" hero
26 Scoot
28 Rub the wrong way
32 Exclamation point
34 Conger or moray
36 — podrida
37 Battle verbally
39 Afternoon affair
41 Fleur-de- —
42 Succumb to gravity
44 Thing
46 Baton wielder
50 Journal
51 Pinnacle
52 Soothing
56 Fit of peevishness
57 Voice of Fiona in "Shrek"
58 Teachers' org.
59 Towel marking
60 A handful
61 Sailor

Crossword down

1 Sheepish remark?
2 Hooter
3 Sexy
4 Alley athlete
5 — -Wan Kenobi
6 Protracted
7 Constitutional
8 Hunter's cry
9 Chills and fever
10 Singer Vikki
11 Deuce beater
16 Sceptre topper
20 Fond du —, Wisc.
21 See 25-Across
22 Winged
23 Actress McClanahan
27 Trawler prop
29 Making a claim
30 Gendarme
31 Bridge position
33 Fabric inserts
35 Author Buscaglia
38 Pack away
40 Burning
43 Alumni
45 Cohort of Whoopi and Sherri
46 Hawkeye's sitcom
47 Dermatology subject
48 Ottoman potentate
49 Hodgepodge
53 Hasty escape
54 Ultramodern
55 Tie up the phone

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

4			7	9				1
	7					5	6	
	3			2	5			9
					6			7
		7				8		
9			1					
5			8	7			1	
	9	4					2	
7				4	3			5

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

6	3	9	7	2	5	1	8	4
4	1	5	6	8	9	2	7	3
2	8	7	3	4	1	6	9	5
8	5	3	1	7	6	9	4	2
9	6	2	5	3	4	7	1	8
1	7	4	2	9	8	5	3	6
7	4	6	9	5	3	8	2	1
5	2	8	4	1	7	3	6	9
3	9	1	8	6	2	4	5	7

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min.....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day

Mighty Burger

INGREDIENTS:

Oil for greasing
2/3 lb (300 g) lean ground lamb
2/3 lb (300 g) lean ground pork
2 tsp (10 ml) dried Italian herb mix, or mixed herbs
1 small egg
3 tbsp (45 ml) (85g) fresh breadcrumbs
Salt and black pepper
A few drops of Worcestershire sauce
2 tbsp (25 ml) olive oil
1 medium onion
1 large clove garlic
1–2 tsp (10 ml) chili powder
1 small red pepper
2 tomatoes
3 oz (85 g) button mushrooms
1/4 lb (110 g) mozzarella cheese
1/4 lb (110 g) cheddar cheese

METHOD:

1. Preheat oven to 375 F (190 C). Lightly oil 10-in. (25-cm) pizza sheet or baking pan.
2. Put meat into bowl. Add herbs, then stir in egg, breadcrumbs, salt, pepper and good splash of Worcestershire sauce. Mix well together.
3. Press mixture evenly onto pizza sheet, or put onto baking tray and shape into 10-in. (25-cm) round. Cook burger in oven for 15–20 minutes.
4. Meanwhile, heat olive oil in frying pan. Peel and chop onion and garlic. Add to oil and fry until soft, 5 minutes. Stir in chili powder and remove from heat.
5. Rinse pepper and tomatoes and clean mushrooms. Deseed and dice pepper, then slice tomatoes and mushrooms. Cut mozzarella into thin slices and grate cheddar.
6. Remove burger from oven and drain off liquid; increase oven temperature to 425 F (220 C).
7. Spread onion mixture over burger. Add pepper, tomatoes and mushrooms. Sprinkle cheese on top. Bake for 5 minutes, or until cheese melts. Serve in wedges with crusty bread, salad and ketchup.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

sallybrompton.com

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Make the world sit up and take notice of you today. Do something that no one can possibly ignore. It's time to get yourself noticed again.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Sometimes it's nice to go with the flow and let others call the tune; this is one of those times. If you get lost in the crowd today it won't worry you.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
You may feel a need to prove yourself but you also need to be realistic about what you can achieve. Aim high today but don't lose sight of who you are.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
You may feel out of your depth but it's nothing to worry about, so don't be discouraged. Others may know more but they don't have your tenacity or sensitivity.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
You're determined to make up for lost time and the best way to do that is to have a good time. But make time too for those who are still stuck.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Others may say you should suppress your natural instincts but you know you won't be happy if you do, so ignore their advice and do what feels right to you.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Anyone who thinks you've not been your happy-go-lucky self lately will have to revise their opinion in the next few days as the smile returns to your face.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
What you have to do today may make you unpopular but you won't shirk responsibilities for the sake of people whose respect you can live without.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
You want to support a plan that means a lot to a friend but you suspect it may not be good for them or you. Go through it with them point by point.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Not everyone who makes you an offer is out to steal your money. Someone who approaches you with a money-making idea should be listened to.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
If you value your peace of mind you must not get involved in other people's relationship problems, not even if they ask you to mediate.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
You will feel much better about yourself today if you forget about your duties and chores for a while and spend time doing what makes you feel happy.

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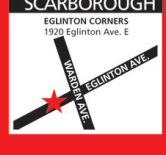

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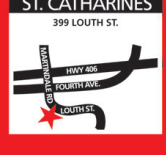
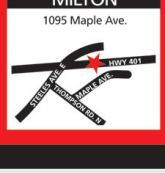


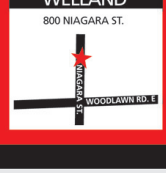
MILTON
1095 Maple Ave.



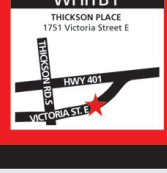
ORANGEVILLE
RIOCAN FAIRGROUND
55 4TH Ave.

WINDSOR
ROUNDHOUSE CENTRE
3155 Howard Ave.

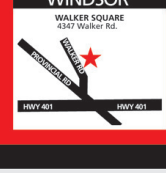
WELLAND
800 NIAGARA ST.



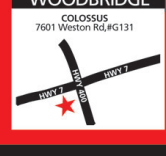
WHITBY
THICKSON PLACE
1751 Victoria Street E



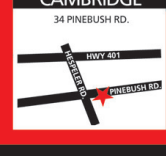
WINDSOR
WALKER SQUARE
4347 Walker Rd.



WOODBRIDGE
COLOSSUS
7601 Weston Rd,#G131



CAMBRIDGE
34 PINEBUSH RD.



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LAST YEAR'S STARTING PRICE ~~$13,595~~

NOW FROM **$9,995**♦ WITH **0%** PURCHASE FINANCING FOR 36 MOS.◊

GL Sport model shown

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LAST YEAR'S STARTING PRICE ~~$15,345~~

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GL with Sport Package model shown

2009 SONATA GL

LAST YEAR'S STARTING PRICE ~~$21,995~~

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Limited model shown

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LAST YEAR'S STARTING PRICE ~~$21,195~~

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Limited model shown

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LAST YEAR'S STARTING PRICE ~~$25,995~~

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Limited model shown

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ANNUAL LEASE RATE PER MO./60 MOS.
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HYUNDAI™

GRADUATE REBATE PROGRAM

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